



ICPC NEWS

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WANTED



Deputy Commandant, Mbuotidem Daniel Akpan Edike
of NSCDC Headquarters, Abuja.

Photo by Solomon Kogi

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ICPC Declares NSCDC Officer Wanted For Alleged Land Fraud

Pursuant to Section 29 of the Corrupt Practices Act 2000, the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has declared Deputy Commandant Mbuotidem Daniel Akpan Edike, an officer of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Headquarters, Abuja, wanted.

This action was premised on the persistent refusal of the above-named officer to appear before the Commission to answer questions on issues bordering on corruption leveled against him.

The officer is alleged to have been involved in massive land scams in the Federal Capital Territory using his company known as Danemy

Nigeria Limited to defraud over one hundred and eighty Nigerians.

Mbuotidem is 45 years old, dark in complexion and 1.69m tall. He is a native of Ntakikot in Essien-Udim Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State.

His last known address was Block A, Flat 6, Zangon Daura Quarters, Kado Estate, Abuja. He is the MD/CEO of Danemy Nigeria Limited of the same address.

The general public has been notified to provide the ICPC with any useful information on the whereabouts of the said officer or report to the nearest Police Station.

**For Petitions, Complaints, Reports, etc
Call ICPC on the following Toll Free Lines:**

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From the Chairman's Desk

"There is no better cause to expend our time, energy and resources as Nigerians than to engage in the cause to eliminate corruption as it has been identified as a major check on our growth and development as a nation. Corruption as you know is the greatest enemy of development.

"Corruption continues to be a source of concern in our country and indeed the world over. There is therefore, the need for deliberate, concerted and collective efforts at the individual, national and international levels to deal with it.

"We need to remind ourselves that when public money is stolen for private gain, it means fewer resources to build schools, hospitals, roads and water treatment facilities. When national resources are diverted into private bank accounts, major infrastructural projects come to a halt. In all of these, the ordinary people suffer first and are usually the most affected by negative outcomes of corrupt practices.

"The world is making progress in the war against corruption as the international system is responding to challenge posed by corruption through vigorous financial regulatory frameworks and international cooperation among countries of the world.

"Nigeria as a respected member of the international comity of nations has responded to the challenge by the enactment of relevant legislations and institutions to confront the challenge of corruption. The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission is a manifestation of that resolve by our country.

"Our vision in the ICPC is a "Nigeria free from all forms of corruption". This we hope to promote through the entrenchment of a solid moral foundation, and through a holistic, credible and potent anti-corruption strategy that will be fully aligned to the proposed national anti-corruption strategy. It is worthwhile to note that this year is a watershed in our history for it is the first year of the implementation of our Strategic Action Plan 2013-2017.

"We cannot deny the fact that the battle against corruption is a daunting one. The task is enormous and resources are lean. It is also our belief that the people must be enlightened, mobilized and empowered to demand accountability of their leaders, political and public office holders. We have provided this opportunity by enhancing citizens' vigilance. This initiative has been driven by the vehicles of ACTU's, NAVC, NACC, the Anti-corruption Vanguard, Anti-Corruption Clubs, etc. These give citizens at all levels the opportunity to be involved in the crusade.

"We are also aware that the environment in which we operate would continue to battle corruption and change the psyche of Nigerians that victory is achievable."

Mr. Ekpo Nta, ICPC Chairman

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Hajj FRAUD: ICPC Arrests LG Chairman's SA

By Garba Aliyu (Kaduna)

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Kaduna Zonal office has arrested one Sani Dauda Hassan, Special Adviser (SA) to the Chairman of Giwa Local Government on Hajj, for defrauding nine people over Hajj pilgrimage.

The suspect was said to have collected the sum of N6,382,000 from the victims who he had assured of Hajj seats.

The fraudulent scheme began when one Musa Abdullahi a resident of Giwa Local Government paid the sum of N650,000 to the suspect with the aim of securing a hajj seat. Abdullahi later introduced Hajiya Halima and 7 others to the suspect who also wanted Hajj seats. But they were all defrauded of their money because neither the Hajj seats nor their money materialized.

The suspect however was only able to supply original Hajj kits i.e. uniform and bags to the victims which he claimed to have obtained from the Pilgrims' Welfare Board in Kaduna.

Under interrogation by operatives of the ICPC, he confessed to committing the offence but pleaded that he was a first-offender. He will be charged to court as soon as investigations are concluded.

MISSION STATEMENT

To highlight and present activities of the Commission in an objective manner and to serve as the most authoritative voice in exposing corruption through-out Nigeria

ICPC Arraigns Cameroonien with Nigerian Passport

By Ase Juliet Omoma

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has arraigned one Cameroonian, Mr. Tumbu Formaka Bartholomew, before Justice Ishaq Bello of Maitama High Court, Abuja.

Mr. Bartholomew was brought before the court on a two-count charge of criminal conspiracy and making false statement to officials of the Nigeria Immigration Services in order to obtain a Nigerian Passport.

The offences are contrary to and punishable under Section 25 (1) (b) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000.

Mr. Bartholomew is accused of conspiring with one Etim Effiong (now at large) to mislead immigration officials into believing that he was a Nigerian from Ikom, Cross River State which facilitated his obtaining a Nigerian International Passport.

Investigations carried out by officers of the Commission revealed that the accused person was in possession of a Nigerian Passport even though he is a national of Cameroon and has not been granted Nigerian citizenship.

The accused admitted that Mr. Effiong Etim, now in Thailand, helped him to get the passport by making a false statement that he was a Nigerian from Cross River State.

Mr. Bartholomew was among the suspects arrested after one Obazee Osadolor for whom a visa was fraudulently obtained, was arrested as he was trying to board a plane to the United States of America from Lagos.

Mr. Bartholomew has pleaded not guilty to the charge and is being remanded in prison custody pending the hearing of his application for bail.

NOTAP DG urges Proper Enforcement of Tax Laws

By Sani Tukur and Murna Ishaku

The Director General of the National Office for Technological Acquisition (NOTAP), Mr. Umar Bindir, has underscored the need for

strict enforcement of taxation statutes as regards corporate organisations operating in the country. Mr. Bindir was speaking while on an official visit to the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) recently.

He said that there was a need to forge a strategic alliance between his organization and the ICPC in order to achieve set objectives.

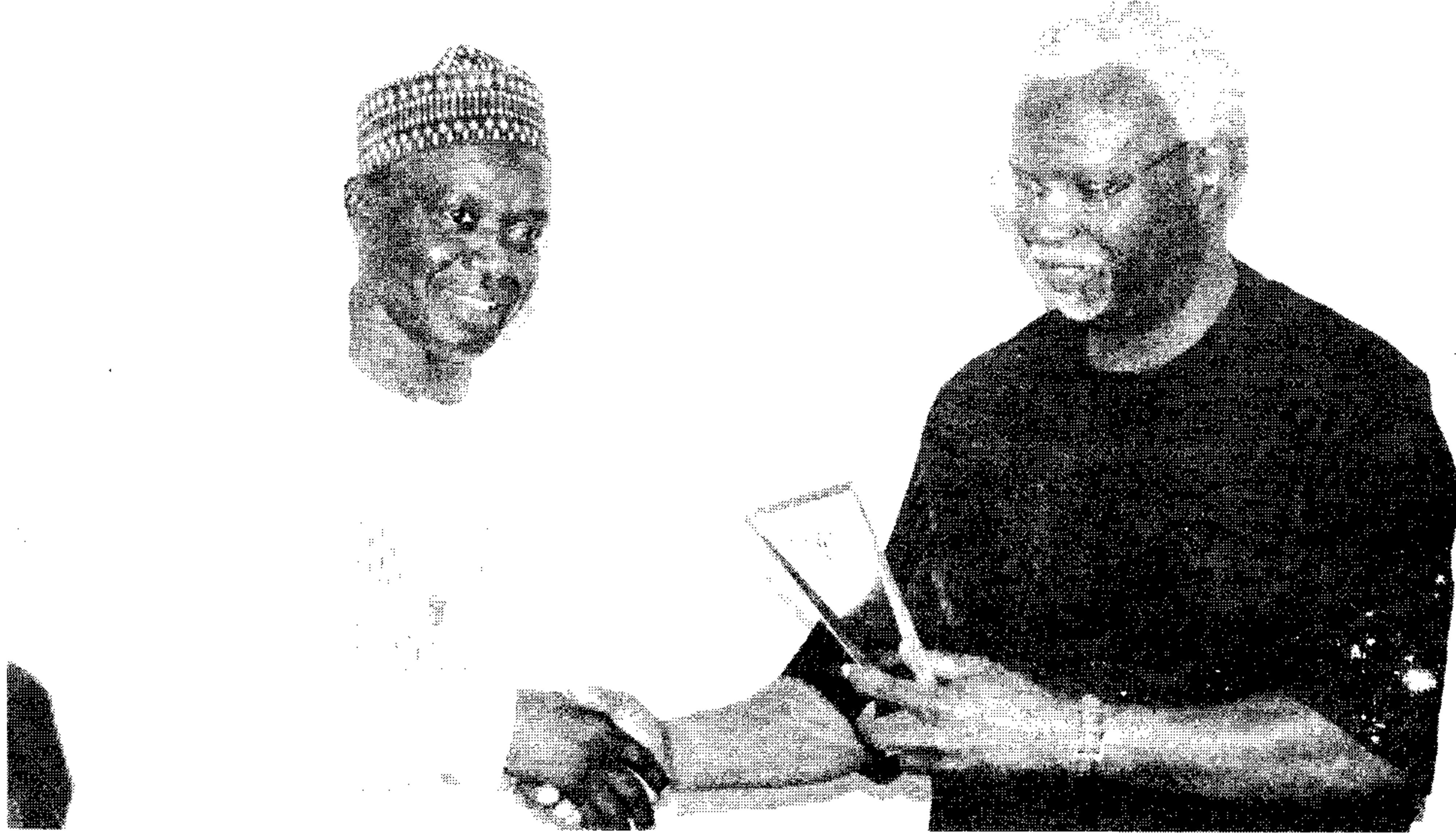
He explained that a lot of companies in the country were operating without proper tax clearance, hence the need for a synergy with relevant bodies such as the ICPC, Bureau of Public Enterprises[BPE], Nigeria Investments Promotion Council[NIPC], Central Bank of Nigeria[CBN], Federal Inland Revenue Service[FIRS] and Corporate Affairs

Commission among others to enforce laws that are relevant to them "to avoid the cutting of corners".

The Chairman of the ICPC, Mr. Nta in his address

noted that the ICPC and NOTAP would collaborate to ensure proper registration of companies and appropriate remittance of taxes by companies operating in the country.

He also stressed the need to ensure that any investor coming to do business in



From L to R NOTAP, DG Mr. Umar Bindir receiving an award from the ICPC Chairman, Nta Ekpo during a courtesy call to ICPC

Photo by Solomon Kogi

Nigeria did so according to the country's standards while calling upon indigenous companies to emulate the performance of their counterparts in Europe and Asia for better output. According to him, there was no justification for any company to compromise on quality standards and corporate governance issues.

He concluded by saying that workshops and seminars organized to educate and sensitize relevant stakeholders would be beneficial in this regard.

Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital ACTU Sensitizes Staff against Corruption

By Mahmoud Magaji Abdullahi

The Anti-Corruption Monitoring Unit (ACTU) of the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital (AKTH) recently organized a workshop on corruption in the workplace. It sought to educate the junior staff of the hospital on the impact of corruption in the work environment, especially in the public health sector.

The Head of the Kano State office of the Independent Corrupt

Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) Mr. Sabi'u Illiyasu, who was represented by Mr. Suleiman Muhammed Maishanu urged participants to be patriotic in their duties and to report any case of corruption to the AKTH ACTU or any other office of the Commission. In a paper he presented at the occasion titled: "*Causes, Consequences of Bribery and*

Corruption and Remedies", Mr. Umar Madu Bah dwelt on several issues, starting with a brief history of the anti-corruption bill, the structure of the Commission, work ethics and ways to remedy the menace of corruption in our health institutions. He further explained issues relating to corruption in the public health sector vis-a-vis relevant sections and penalties within the ICPC Act, 2000.

ICPC to Prosecute Customs Car Auction Fraudsters ... Gives Updates on Seizure of 61 Houses, Lands

By Hauwa Madu and Inalegwu Shaibu

The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Mr. Ekpo Nta has said that the Commission is set to prosecute fraudsters who posed as officers of the Nigerian Customs Service (NCS) on the internet to auction cars to members of the public.

Mr. Nta who made the disclosure during an investigative Public Hearing on improper land allocation, land racketeering and land swapping in the FCT, organized by the House of Representatives in Abuja said the ICPC has arrested some of the fraudsters that have collected huge sums of money from Nigerians in exchange for cars that were never supplied.

He said, "There are some people that pose on the internet as buyers and sellers of cars, especially cars seized by the Nigerian Customs. These people invite unsuspecting Nigerians to pay money into their accounts for the cars. We have made substantial arrests and we are going to prosecute them to serve as a deterrent to others."

He enjoined Nigerians to be wary of doing business without seeking the advice of professionals. In his words: "We should learn to be professional in our dealings. If a lawyer was mandated, he would go and find out the authenticity of the business before any investment could be made."

On Recent Seizure of 61 Houses and Plots

The Chairman who also spoke on the recent seizure of 61 houses and over one thousand hectares of land by the ICPC from a Nigerian, who posed as a staff of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) to defraud members of the public through sales of land added that the Commission would ensure that the culprit, now at large was brought to book soon.

He gave breakdown of the seizures to include, 61 housing units, which include 40 units of two-bedroom flats, 21 units of three-bedroom flats and one duplex all located in an estate in Abuja.

"Six companies were involved in the fraud. We have blocked all the accounts of the companies. We have written to all the agencies concerned so that the 1795.58 hectares of land and the properties seized would not be sold to a third party until the matter is resolved", he added.

Mr. Nta also absolved the NSCDC of being part of the fraud, and commended the Commandant General of the Corps, Dr. Ade Abolurin for reporting the fraud to the Commission. He urged other government agencies to take a cue from the NSCDC boss.

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He urged other government agencies to take a cue from the NSCDC boss.

unsavory practice regarding the selling of lands in the FCT and Nasarawa State.

"It is rare for public officers to willingly go and report anomalies in their establishments to another agency. It is a commendable thing. The ICPC Act provides that such infractions, when they occur should be reported to the Commission."

Chairman of the Committee, Hon. Bimbo Daramola lauded the Commission for its role in taming corruption in Nigeria.

He lamented that over 186 Nigerians had been defrauded by the land fraudster through a company called DANEMY Nigeria Limited in a housing scheme that was orchestrated in the guise of an NSCDC housing scheme.

He asked if the victims of the fraud could get reprieves as soon as possible. But Mr. Nta, in response, said the court would decide that, adding that the Commission would ensure that the victims do not suffer unnecessarily by speedily concluding investigations.

The ICPC Chairman revealed that the Commission was in full custody of all the seized properties and that constant monitoring was in place to ensure that they were not tampered with.

ICPC unveils Whistle-Blower/ Witness Protection Policy

By Maduako, Roseline O.

Whistle-blowers and witnesses who are often victimized by their superiors for reporting corrupt acts will soon find succour.

This is against the backdrop of a whistle-blower and witness protection policy which the ICPC will soon introduce in order to protect its informants and witnesses from victimization.

The policy is expected to boost the fight against corruption since such whistle-blowers would be shielded from being victimized and would feel safe after reporting any acts of corruption.

A consultative meeting which was recently held for the staff of Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) and other agencies at the Commission's headquarters in Abuja and was attended by officers of various government departments and agencies including the ICPC provided a forum for the disclosure of the new whistle-blower policy by the ICPC.

Declaring the meeting open, the Secretary to the Commission, Mr. Elvis Oglafa, on behalf of the Commission's Chairman, noted the seriousness with which the officers of the agencies embraced the new dimension and approach to empower anti-corruption agencies to fortify their efforts against corruption. He reiterated the ICPC's resolve to do everything within its powers to bring down the menace of corruption in the country.

Also, Mrs. Christiana Onuogu (HOD Legal), in her remark defined "whistle-blower" to mean a person/persons who give information on an act of corruption and most times suffer victimization when they make such reports.

The policy, she said, is not a bill but an interim measure to help in corruption combat, and solicited for cooperation of other agencies to help in this fight and to also let people know that they can be protected if they become whistle-blowers or witnesses.

In his presentation of the policy titled "**Whistle-Blower and Witness Protection Policy of ICPC**", Mr. Akeem Lawal (Acting Deputy Commissioner, Legal) lamented that whistle-blower/witness victimization has become "an issue in the society and if not checked will retard the fight against

corrupt practices." The policy, he said, "is a child of necessity in ICPC with regards to ICPC Act 2000, Section 64 (Protection of informers and information) & Section 70 (Powers of the Commission to make rules); thus the basis is to ensure that there is a policy on ground to protect the informants, information and witnesses."

Mr. Lawal further called on all the participants to make their observations, suggestions and contributions to strengthen the policy.

Jonathan's SA Commends ICPC's Efforts in Sanitizing Varsity System

By Sani Tukur

The Special Adviser to the President on Ethics and Values, Mrs. Sarah Jibril has applauded the efforts of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission in cleaning up the university system through system study and the clamp down on illegal universities across the country.

She was speaking during a courtesy visit to the ICPC Chairman, Mr. Ekpo Nta in Abuja recently. According to her, "There is a need to collaborate with the ICPC in order to raise the moral, ethical and value systems of the country' While stressing the need to keep the cleaning up of the university system, she pointed out that examination malpractice in universities impacted negatively on the quality of graduate produced in the country. She therefore urged the Commission to also direct its efforts toward curbing this malaise.

Mr. Ekpo Nta, in his response, assured he of the Commission's commitment towards the raising of morals, ethics and values among students of tertiary institutions in the country.

He further stressed that the Commission had introduced numerous ways to enhance ethics and value system through its National Values Curriculum (NVC) which infuses the country's positive values into different subjects that are taught in schools. He also added that to achieve this, the Commission has launched Teacher's Guide Handbook that makes it easier for teachers to understand the NVC.

Law Reform Commission Proposes Amendment to Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000 ...SAN says ICPC name a Misnomer

By Robert Ayakpat

The Nigerian Law Reform Commission (NLRC) has proposed amendments to the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000, which established the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC). To this end, a workshop was organized by the NLRC recently in Abuja, aimed at brainstorming on the proposed amendments to some provisions of the law that are fundamental flaws that have retarded the smooth operations of the anti-graft Commission.

Speaking at the event, the Chairman Nigerian Law Reform Commission, Justice Umaru A. Kalgo who was represented by Professor Cyprian O. Okonkwo, said that the Nigerian Law Reform Commission has carefully examined the provisions of the ICPC Act and has made proposals to amend some of its provisions. He urged all participants to offer useful contributions towards the improvement of the act.

Declaring the workshop open, Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Mr. Mohammed Bello, who spoke through Professor Deji Adegunle, said that the reform exercise was in conformity with the good governance/anti-corruption measures of the transformation agenda of the present administration.

In this regard, he said, a re-examination of our existing laws on corruption has become necessary to bring them in tandem with new challenges.

ICPC Name a Misnomer, says SAN

Mr. Ola Olanipekun in his paper presentation, "*Proposals for the Reform of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission Act, 2000 (The ICPC Act)*" among many others suggested an amendment to the name of the Commission.

In his words, "According to Section



ICPC Chairman, discussing with Mr. Ola Olanipekun, SAN during the workshop

Photo by Solomon Kogi

3(1) ICPC Act 2000, "There is hereby established a Commission to be known as the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission."

Ola said, "A reflection over the name of the Commission established by the act would indicate that something is missing. The Commission was established to fight corrupt practices and NOT FOR corrupt practices as the name suggests. Every time I read the signboard - Independent Corrupt Practices Commission, I become more convinced that we may be sending a wrong signal that the Commission is established for corrupt practices.

He therefore suggested that Section 3(1) should be amended to read: "There is hereby established a Commission to be known as the Independent Anti-Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission".

Other sections highlighted for amendment were Sections 6 and 27. Section 6 (a) empowers the Commission to receive and investigate any report of commission of offence while Section 27 (1) specifies that the report may be oral or written.

Speaking further, Mr. Olanipekun said, "It would seem that the Commission must wait to receive a report or complaint before the enormous powers of arrest and investigation conferred on it can be activated. If no report is made, the Commission looks on, while elaborate drama of nauseating facts, accusation and counter-accusation of

monumental fraud are played out, even on national television."

Therefore, he suggested that "In tandem with duties obligated under Sub Sections (b) to (F), the Commission should be able to, where reasonable grounds exist for suspecting the commission of an offence invite or arrest such persons for investigation and probable prosecution.

It is thereby suggested that an amendment be made to Section 6 mandating such duty and granting all enabling powers to so do, if none exists."

Other issues touched include protection and reward of informant, composition of membership of the Commission, qualification of members of the Commission among others.

Chairman of the ICPC, Mr. Ekpo Nta, who was present at the workshop expressed that the anti-corruption agency was not established out of international pressure.

Mr. Nta said, "There are two ways countries would like to put anti-corruption agencies in place. The first would be that they had come under severe international pressure to do so, and they need that reaction to set up an anti-corruption body to satisfy international pressure.

"The second aspect has to do with the people deciding that corruption is a problem and must be tackled. And out of their own internal resolve and volition set up anti-corruption agencies. It was in this light that the ICPC came into being four years before the advent of the United Nations Convention against Corruption(UNCAC)."

Speaking further, he stated that the Commission had gone ahead to change the situation of the country. "So we are on Twitter, on Facebook, we have toll-free lines and we are getting a lot of information on these toll-free lines." he added.

FMC Lokoja Accounts Clerk jailed for stealing N8.3m ...Modupe Bosede Adeyemi's Journey to Prison

By Henry Emore, Suleiman Achile and Inalegwu Shaibu

A High Court of Kogi State sitting at Koton-Karfe has sentenced Modupe Adeyemi, a former accounts clerk at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Lokoja, to 3 months imprisonment for offences bordering on corruption.

Adeyemi was arraigned by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) in January 2013 for offences of "using her office to confer corrupt advantage upon herself, altering duplicate copies of various bank tellers with the intent to defraud, and making false statements on returns contrary to Sections 15(a and c), 16 and 19 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000 respectively.

According to the ICPC prosecution, the accused fraudulently kept back for herself various sums of money whenever she was sent to deposit money in banks by her organization by virtue of her position as an accounts clerk in the Revenue Unit of the FMC, Lokoja. He said she would deposit only a little fraction of the money she was given and thereafter doctor the bank tellers to cover her misdeeds. As at the time she was discovered she had stolen a total sum of N8,371,000.

...Journey to Prison

Modupe Bosede Adeyemi's journey to prison began in November 2009 after the High Court of Kogi State at Koton-Karfe granted the ICPC leave to prefer charges against her under Section 185(b) of the Criminal Procedure Code (CPC). She was subsequently arraigned by the ICPC in January 2010. A thirty-count charge was slammed against her. Ten of the counts relate to offences contrary to Section 19 of the ICPC act, ten other counts relate to offences contrary to Section 15(a) and punishable under Section 15(c) of the ICPC act, while the remaining ten

counts relate to offences contrary to Section 6 of the same act. The thirty counts were formulated from ten separate acts of the accused person.

In the course of the trial, the prosecution called six witnesses as follows,

(a) Mr. Otu Musa Sule (Head of Accounts Department, Federal Medical Center, Lokoja).

(b) Mr. Bankole Akin-Taiwo (an investigator with ICPC, attached to Kogi Zonal Office).

Mrs. Ogundare Rotimi Olubunmi (an employee of the Federal Medical Center, Lokoja: Salary Unit).

(c) Mr. Andrew Odeh (Branch Manager, UBA Plc, Lokoja Kogi State).

(d) Mrs. Oyiza Okatahi (Branch Manager, Zenith Bank Plc, Lokoja Kogi State).

(e) Mrs. Soje Bosede Ebele (an employee of Federal Medical Center, Lokoja: Finance and Supply Department).

The prosecution led by H. O. Emore, appearing with Tanimu Yakubu and S. A. Enebere, told the court that sometime between October 2006 and April 2007, any time Modupe Adeyemi went to deposit money for her establishment at UBA or Zenith Bank, if she had been given for example, N202,250, she would only pay in N2,250 and keep N200,000 back. However, she would alter the duplicate teller to read the actual N202,250 both in words and in figures before returning it to the FMC. This continued until she had made a total heist of N8,371,000 before she was discovered.

The defence, Aliyu Saiki and M. Y. Abdullahi, on the other hand, called no witnesses except the accused person who testified for herself. Her defence was a general blanket denial of all the charges preferred against her. She claimed she had not done anything wrong.

It is noteworthy that the trial

suffered protracted delays because several counsels appeared for the accused one after the other. Each new counsel always applied for time to study the case and that invariably led to delays.

...Judgment

In delivering judgement, the trial judge, Justice Alaba Omolaye-Ajileye, said that the prosecution had proven its case beyond reasonable doubts. He rejected the accused person's denials as untenable. He upbraided Modupe for using her position as a Revenue Clerk with the FMC to gratify herself in contravention of the relevant sections of the ICPC act, saying that her actions were reprehensible. The judge also queried the accounting system of the FMC which loopholes allowed the perpetration of the fraud. In his words: "A system that accommodated and sustained the likes of the convict over such a period is surely overdue for both clinical and surgical overhaul"

Prior to sentencing, the defence counsel had pleaded for leniency while the prosecution urged the court to apply the provisions of the law strictly.

The judge, however, observed that the accused person had shown remorse during the trial and therefore in applying the provisions of the law he would be lenient. He sentenced the accused to three months imprisonment on each of the counts without the option of fine but the sentences were to run concurrently. He noted that the accused had earlier made confessional statements of how she had defrauded the FMC and used the money to establish a "pure water" factory. She also acquired properties as well as bought shares in Dangot and Dunlop companies.

Modupe Bosede Adeyemi also known as Adeyemi Dupe was taken away to Okene Prisons shortly after the sentencing.

Anti-Corruption Agencies Commemorate International Anti-Corruption Day

By Advent Boniface

The Inter-Agency Task Team (IATT) which is an amalgamation of 24 agencies with anti-corruption and accountability mandates commemorated the 2013 International Anti-Corruption Day at the Shehu Musa Yar'adua Centre in Abuja on December 9.

Notable agencies with anti-corruption and accountability mandates include the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB) and Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI), Auditor-General, Attorney-General, Police, Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Customs Service and Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) among others.

By resolution 58/4 of October 31, 2003, the United Nations General Assembly designated December 9, as International Anti-Corruption Day. The General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and requested that the Secretary General designate the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as secretariat for the Convention's Conference of States Parties.

This decision was aimed at raising public awareness on corruption and what people could do to fight the menace. It is observed on December 9 every year.

The day is a time for political leaders, governments, legal bodies and lobby groups to work together against corruption.

The theme for this year's celebration which was "Zero Corruption, 100%



Some of the IATT members at the Anti-corruption day

Photo by Solomon Kogi

Development: Corruption Risk Assessment a Vital Tool," is a pointer that the anti-corruption agencies are striving towards preventive measures because investigation and prosecution are time-consuming and capital intensive."

Against this backdrop, the IATT engaged the general public to effectively fight corruption and fraud in the communities through dissemination of posters, flyers, books and other materials to increase awareness levels on corruption and contributions from those who are victims of corruption.

In his welcome remark, the Chairman, Inter-Agency Task Team, Mr. Ledum Mitee, lamented that the debilitating effects of corruption could not be over-emphasized, saying, "it not only undermines development but it is an enabler for other crimes and anomalies thereby perpetuating a vicious cycle."

Mr. Mitee noted that Nigeria had never been idle in its bid to combat corruption stating that "efforts directed at fighting the monster in Nigeria, are as old as the country itself," as he cited an array of legislations and institutions for fighting corruption.

He also observed that given the

further institutions sometimes with conflicting mandates.

In his keynote address, the ICPC Chairman, Mr. Ekpo Nta, who was represented by an honourable member, Alhaji Ozi Isa Salami, said that the Commission's vision was a Nigeria free from all forms of corruption which was achievable through the entrenchment of a solid moral foundation, and through a holistic, credible and potent anti-corruption strategy.

Mr. Ekpo who remarked that the ICPC's resolve is to continue to fight corruption and change the psyche of Nigerians, added that "the people must be enlightened, mobilized and empowered to demand accountability of their leaders-political and public office holders." "We must remember that the most important and strategic assault against corruption is through the mobilization of the people, either as individuals or groups to denounce and take a stand against it," he advised.

Also, speaking during the occasion, UNODC country representative and UN system representative, Ms. Mariam Sissoko, pointed out that "corruption leads to weak governance and undermines the rule

intimidating institutional and legal landscape for addressing the corruption malaise, and the fact that corruption continues to remain a hydra-headed problem in Nigeria; the country must do more than passing laws and creating

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Anti-Corruption Agencies Commemorate International Anti-Corruption Day

of law.”

She said corruption does not just undermine economic development; it also stalls human development and reduces access to public services by diverting funds meant for infrastructure for private gain.

Representatives of other sister agencies such as EFCC, CCB, NEITI, BPP, CAC, Customs Service, Auditor-General for the Federation and the Nigeria Police Force all took turns to highlight most of their major achievements in the fight against corruption. Most of the agencies craved for political will and adequate funding of the anti-graft agencies to serve as an impetus if the fight against corruption must succeed.

Participants also aired out their views on corruption, and the role of the anti-corruption agencies, saying that the only way to make a breakthrough in this battle was when the phenomenon was confronted holistically.

As a prelude to the main event the IATT had carried out a two-day sub-national level activity at Ikot Ekpene LGA, Akwa Ibom State, South-South Nigeria on the December 4

and 5, 2013. The sub-national activity was the third outing by the task team. The first outing was in Otukpo, Benue State, North-Central and the second was in Ibadan, Oyo State, South-West in 2012.

The first day of the sub-activity was heralded by a rally which began at Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Zonal Office, along Uyo/Ikot Ekpene expressway through to the old and new LG secretariat and other major streets in the LG.

The IATT was joined in the procession by NYSC/NAVC members, officers and men of the NSCDC, FRSC, PCC, staff of ICPC, Uyo Office, as well as members of some trade unions and the locals.

During the rally there were musicals, street dance, display of handbills, flyers, posters and other materials publicizing the

message of fighting corruption.

The second day of the sub-activity was a town-hall meeting where the locals, trade unions, victims of corruption and other interest groups interfaced directly with the task team and a host of issues bordering on corruption were brought to the fore.

A lot of questions regarding the activities of various anti-corruption agencies were asked and representatives of the agencies present were able to enlighten the people. For effective communication, a native of the town translated whatever was said in English to the local dialect.



A cross-section of participants at the Anti-corruption day
Photo by Solomon Kogi

ICPC Boss says Cashless Policy will boost anti-corruption Drive

By Ruth Awodi

If the cashless monetary policy introduced by the Central Bank of Nigeria is fully adopted corruption can be curbed effectively in Nigeria. This was the view of the Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Mr. Ekpo Nta.

Mr. Nta who spoke recently at a public lecture organized by the Obafemi Awolowo Institute of Government and Public Policy in Lagos State stated that the introduction of cashless policy has reduced corruption in government transactions.

He said, “The current cashless bank policy and e-payment of salaries, goods and services is already working wonders and has reduced the incidence of corruption in Nigeria”.

Mr. Nta while delivering a paper on *'God-given Wealth, Man-made Poverty and the Rule of Law'* said the Commission has developed new strategies to reduce corruption in the country.

He stated that the ICPC is in partnership with many government and non-governmental organizations including private individuals in the fight against corruption.

One of such partnerships is the collaboration with the National Universities Commission (NUC) to weed out illegal degree-awarding institutions operating in Nigeria.

“In a bid to tackle corruption in the Country, the ICPC in partnership with the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) has

introduced the National Values Curriculum where ethics and civic responsibilities have been incorporated in the curriculum of school subjects.

“Plans are also afoot to introduce anti-corruption studies in Nigeria with support from United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNDOC”, he revealed.

Also delivering a lecture at the occasion, Professor Yinka Omorogbe blamed Nigeria's economic woes on corruption and the absence of rule of law.

She said that Nigeria is still grappling with poverty despite the abundance of human and natural resources in the country due to corruption.

In her words: “Nigeria has abundant reserves of varied natural resources, with large deposits of crude oil, natural gas, coal, bitumen, gold, diamond, silver etc but because of the scourge of corruption, poverty and underdevelopment are on the rise”.

ICPC North- East Zonal Office Bauchi Takes the Crusade to the Grassroots

By Dalhatu Abdullahi Bangaje

The North-East Zonal Office of The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission has embarked on a sensitization program for staff of the Ministry for Local Governments and Chieftaincy Affairs and that of Twenty (20) Local Government councils of the state.

The program was officially flagged off by the Honorable Commissioner of the Ministry, Rt. Hon. Ahmed Abubakar Fago. The Commissioner expressed his appreciation to the Commission for coming up with the initiative of spreading the crusade on anti-corruption to the grassroots level. He decried the level of corruption in the country and advised “that the fight against the hydra-headed monster called corruption must be fought by all and sundry”. He assured the ICPC of the support of the ministry in the successful actualization of the mandate of the Commission. He averred that the public enlightenment and education and the preventive method through the system study and review of the activities of the Ministries, Departments and Agencies would go a long way in reducing the incidence of corruption and other related vices in the country because to him “prevention is better than cure”

In his response, the Zonal Coordinator of the North-East Zonal Office of the ICPC, Mr. Olusegun Adigun thanked the Commissioner and staff of the Ministry for identifying with the anti-corruption crusade. He highlighted the mandate of the

Commission and spoke at length on the public education programme of the Commission. He stated that the Commission, under the leadership of the Chairman, has directed that the campaign against corruption must be taken to the grassroots level. He further said that the Local Government System played a major role as it is the closest to people, thus, the need for them to be enlightened on the activities of the Commission as well as the evil effects of corruption.

A paper titled: “**Corruption, ICPC Act and You**” was delivered by the Zonal Head. In the course of the presentation, he explained the concept of corruption, its causes and consequences to our national life as well as the mandate of the Commission. In his closing remark, the Zonal Head urged the participants to join the National Anti-Corruption Volunteer Corp in the state to help in the fight against corruption.

Religious Leaders Should Play a Role in the Fight against Corruption

By Ase Juliet Omoma

The Programme/Communication Manager of Panafrican Strategic and Policy Research Center, Mr. Walter C. Duru, has called on religious leaders to take up a more positive role in the fight against graft.

Mr. Duru made the call when he led a delegation from the research centre on a courtesy visit to the headquarters of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission.

The delegation was received by Mr. Bala Mohammed, Head of Planning, Research and Review Department, who represented the Chairman of the Commission.

Mr. Duru also said that he was not impressed with some religious leaders because they were not playing their role in fighting corruption.

“I have done my own research and a system study on some religious leaders and I am not impressed with the result I got on their apathy towards the fight against corruption,” he stated.

According to him, “Our religious leaders have a big role to play in the war against corruption. They should not feel the war is meant for only our anti-corruption agencies because the fight against corruption is for everybody.

“They should learn to teach morals, norms and ethics of the society and not just preach prosperity to their congregation.

“The churches and mosques are places where people come for spiritual guidance and counseling. Our spiritual leaders should help guide them to do the right thing and not just feed them with words of prosperity.”

Corruption is not just about Stealing Money- PTDF Secretary

By Nelson Corper T.

With the growing need to minimize corruption in Ministries, Departments and Agencies of government, the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) recently organized a two-day sensitization workshop on anti-corruption for its staff to discuss workplace corruption "that impedes economic development, undermines stability and erodes trust in public institutions."

Declaring the workshop open, Chairperson of PTDF Mrs. Ifeoma Nwokike, disclosed the theme: **"Mobilizing the People; You can be the Change"** stressed that the week was set aside to discuss issues of corruption in the workplace and the country at large.

According to her, proper self-examination was one of the effective ways through which corruption could be minimized in the workplace.

Speaking earlier, the Executive Secretary of PTDF, Dr. Oluwole Oluleye had stressed the need for staff to imbibe the culture of integrity to enable them participate in the fight against corruption.

He further said; "Corruption does not only imply stealing money but manifests in various other forms that are not within public view. Therefore public servants should

support the anti-corruption policy of Mr. President as contained in the transformation agenda which has zero tolerance for corruption".

On his part, Mr. Kennedy Ebhotemen of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) who spoke on the remedies for corruption in his paper titled: **"Building and Promoting Integrity and Transparency in Public Life"**, described transparency and integrity as effective tools for minimizing corruption in the workplace.

He added that public officials should ensure effective and efficient discharge of their responsibilities in the workplace by imbibing the culture and virtues of uprightness and accountability "even when no one is looking", in all areas of human endeavors.

Mr. Ebhotemen advised public servants to cultivate the various traits of integrity which include honesty in work and to colleagues, while encouraging them to be good team players that are dependable and trustworthy. He told the leaders to "walk the talk" by working towards achieving organizational goals through being accountable. He urged participants and staff of the PTDF to carry out self-assessment and ensure that gossiping, stealing, lies,

making flimsy excuses, dishonest communication, using office hours for personal gain and so many corruption traits are not found in them.

According to him, success in government businesses can be achieved through individual and institutional openness, truthfulness, sincerity and principled conduct.

Another paper presenter, Mr. Richard Bello, in a paper titled: "Mobilizing People to Create and Manage Institutional Change" said change will not come if we wait for someone or a convenient time.

"The sole responsibility lies on individuals to create an enabling environment for change by making things happen rather than waiting for things to happen and it starts from individual hearts and homes which further reflect in the society thereby creating the lasting solution we need as a nation," He added.

He advised participants and members of the PTDF to be the change they wish to see in the world rather than apportioning blames to government and leaders, pointing out the numerous benefits of change which brings about high staff morale, renewed public confidence, organizational growth, improved

national growth and development.

He also stated that ethical standards, clear policies and procedures, accountability, corporate social responsibilities amongst others are necessary strategies and policies for managing institutional change that would minimize corruption.

Mr. Bello concluded by listing ethical leadership, staff integrity, monitoring and corruption deterrence as some of the measures through which institutional action plan for institutional change can be effected while encouraging employees to always report the corrupt and any attempted corrupt practice in the workplace.

A staff of the ICPC is vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities of a police officer, under the police Act and any other laws conferring power on the police, or empowering and protecting the law enforcement agents in accordance with S.5(1) of Act No.5 of 2000

....Nigeria has taken a Bold Step to Tackle the Scourge of Corrrption – ICPC Boss

By, Murtala Bello Bankanu, Kaduna



ICPC Chairman, Nta Ekpo

The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Barr. Ekpo Nta, has said that Nigeria through the ICPC and other anti-corruption agencies has taken a bold step to tackle the scourge of corruption in the country.

The Chairman, who was represented by a board member, Mr. Isa Ozi Salami, stated this in a paper titled *“Implication of Corruption for National Development: How To Checkmate Corruption”* at the National Retreat on Anti-Corruption Ethics and Transparency for Public and Private Institutions in Nigeria held in Kaduna and organized by the Economic Monitoring and Policy Development Centre, Abuja.

He argued that Nigeria, by enacting the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000 and the Economic and Financial Crimes Act 2002, had promulgated its anti-corruption legislation five years earlier than the international community because the United Nation's Convention on Anti-Corruption (UNCAC) which was adopted in 2003 by the UN General Assembly only came into force in 2005.

The Federal Government he said, through the ICPC has developed a draft National Anti-Corruption Strategy (2013-2017), aimed at enhancing capacity, improving collaboration and coordination among anti-corruption agencies for a more

effective fight against the menace.

Other efforts highlighted by the ICPC Chairman included the Nigerian National Ethics and Integrity Policy, National Ethics and Civic Curriculum for our educational system, establishment of Anti-Corruption and Integrity Clubs, Systems Study and Review, town-hall

meetings to enlighten the public, National Anti-Corruption Volunteer Corps, National Coalition of Civil Societies, ACTUs, amongst others.

While responding to issues raised by the participants during the discussion session, Mr. Salami pointed out some of the recent achievements of the Commission, such as universities system study and review; shutting down of illegal universities and prosecution of the operators, provision of toll-free lines for reporting corrupt practices; systems study and review in MDAs; confiscation of assets and properties of individuals living above their means; arrest of PHCN Officials among others. He therefore, informed the participants to note that, “... ICPC is really working.....!”

Mr. Salami called on “all levels of governance to key into a national ethical conduct and not play politics with our jugular arteries especially in the areas of basic infrastructure, such as education, health, agriculture, security etc.” He added that, “nation-building will benefit from a strong dose of citizen and leadership conduct driven by ethics and integrity, hence, the substructures that will support genuine ethical conduct must be situated in a fair rewards system where there is access to acceptable standards that provide a decent life to citizens.”

Earlier, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Drugs, Narcotics, Financial Crimes and Anti-Corruption, Senator Victor Lar, who

was also the Chairman of the retreat, noted that the National Assembly was doing its best in the area of passing adequate legislations.

Senator Lar pointed out that several legislations have been put in place to stall corruption and strengthen institutions in both the public and private sectors.

Such legislations include the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (Establishment) Act 2002, Money Laundering (Prohibition) Act 2004, Banks and Other Financial Institutions Act (BOFIA),

Others are the Public Procurement Act 2007, Nigeria Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative Act 2007, and Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007.

He added that, to fight corruption and impunity, “individuals in both the public and private organisations must stand boldly and say No! No!! No!!! to corruption while maintaining a high level of ethical standards and integrity.”

In a paper titled, *“Ethical Values of Transforming the Nigerian Society: Prospects and Challenges”*, Mohammed Bougei Attah, who represented Mrs. Sarah Jubril, Senior Special Assistant to President on Ethics and Values, pointed out that, “Challenges of our time are enormous and are largely ethical issues, hence, in our daily quest for an ethical reorientation, composing good governance and corrupt-free society, CSOs remain an unbending force that must be carried along if we must reach zero-corruption destination.”

The retreat on National Anti-Corruption, Ethics and Transparency for Public and Private Officers, with a theme, “Promoting Credible Conduct among Public and Private Officers in Nigeria” was also attended by the GM Audit, NIPOST, representatives of some state houses of assembly, delegates from the private sector, representatives of Civil Society Groups, among others.

Openness, Accountability foster Anti-Corruption -ICPC Chairman

By Anike Adeshina

The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Mr. Ekpo Nta, has re-affirmed the Commission's commitment to waging war on corruption with every means available to it. Mr. Nta, represented by Alhaji Ozi Isa Salami, an honorable member of the ICPC, was speaking at a Two-Day Presidential Retreat on Awareness of the Provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2007 tagged: "*Fiscal Responsibility as a Strategy for National Transformation*" which was held recently in Calabar.

Mr. Nta in a paper titled: "*Accountability and Transparency in Fiscal Operations*" noted that the value of openness and accountability is that they foster public discussions with various shades of stakeholders.

The ICPC Chairman recalled that allocations from the Federation Account were being published in the print media starting from 2003 by the Federal Government, through the Federal Ministry of Finance, and that this was years before the *Fiscal Responsibility and Freedom of Information Acts* were enacted.

He revealed that in reaction to that publication, ICPC produced a fiscal responsibility documentary, in collaboration with UNDP, to enlighten citizens and civil societies on how to engage and monitor their respective local government budgeting processes and public expenditure.

He however regretted that some "activists have ended up using the information to blackmail the local government authorities for their private share or settlement, instead of acting as whistleblowers".

Mr. Nta added that "When some revenue-generating agencies fail to declare and remit truthfully the amounts of revenue generated to the Federation Account as NEITI audit reports have shown, ICPC ensured and will continue to ensure compliance by defaulting agencies until there is total compliance.

"However, there is need to streamline some of their laws to remove ambiguity as to what should be retained and how what is retained is spent", he concluded.

ICPC Chairman Bags Icon of Diligent Service Award

By Robert Ayakpat

The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission, Mr. Ekpo Nta, has been honored with an "Icon of Diligent Service and a Distinguished Leader of Inestimable Value" award.

The award was conferred on him recently by the

Niger-Delta Forum for Good Governance (NDFFGG) "in order to encourage him in the fight against corruption in Nigeria."

Secretary to the Commission, Mr. Elvis Oglafa who received the award on behalf of the Chairman, praised the organization for bestowing such an honour on the ICPC Chairman.

Mr. Oglafa said that good governance is something everyone advocates for. And that ICPC believes good governance can be used as a tool to eliminate corruption.

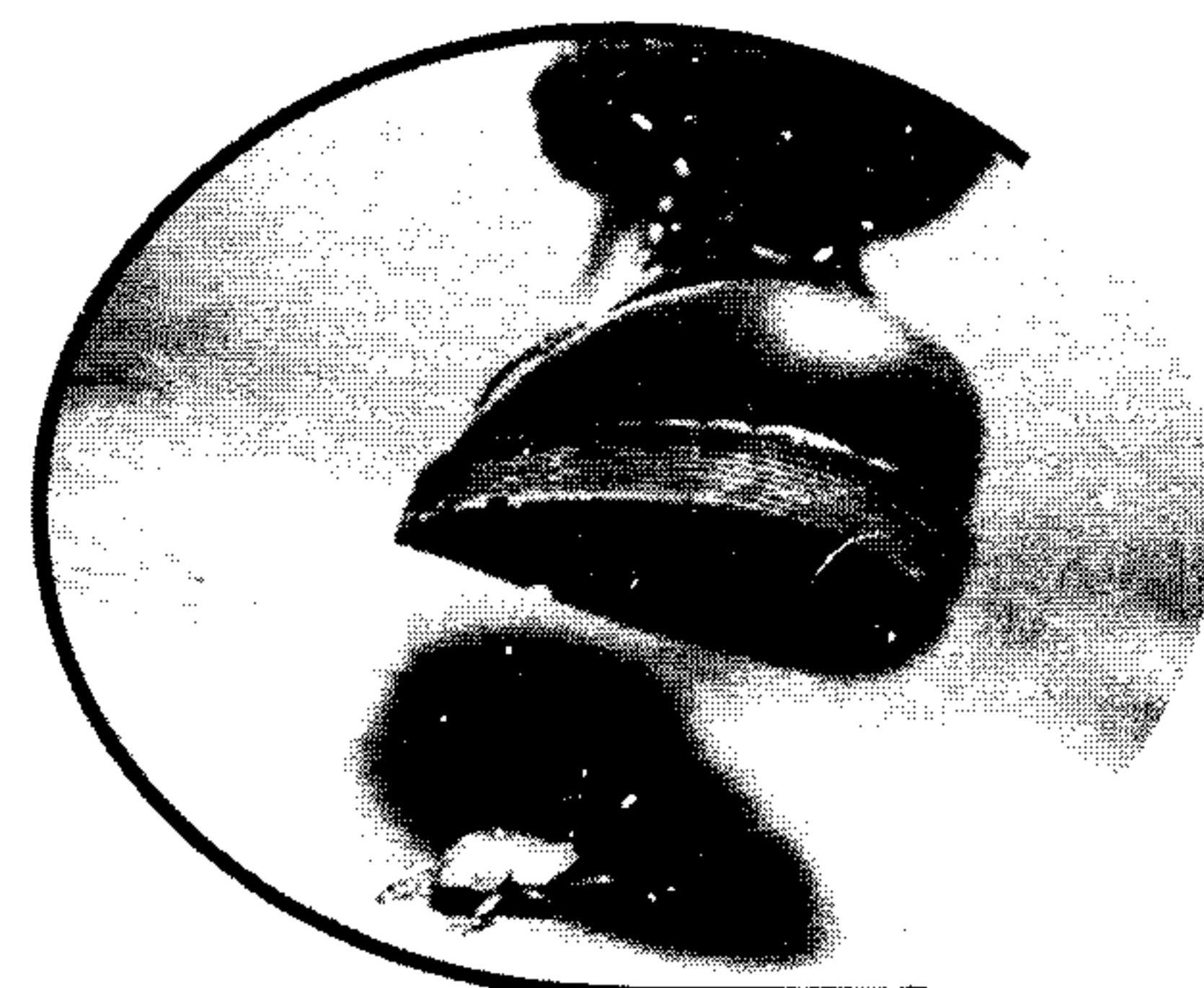
Speaking further on good governance, he said, "If it is institutionalized in all the states and local governments, it will bring about the desired development that the country needs, help fight poverty and build education, thus moving our country to greater heights." Earlier, while presenting the award, the leader of the delegation, Comrade John-Nteka Umoh, who is also the National President of the Forum had said Mr. Nta deserved the award given his immense contribution to the development of the country.

He had said further, "We wish to humbly enjoin you not to see this award of ours as the end of the road, but as one measure that will stimulate you to strive harder in your continuous service to our nation".

The Niger-Delta Forum for Good Governance is the umbrella body of educated, enlightened and patriotic Niger Deltans across Nigeria and the Diaspora with the quest to employ intellectual arsenal for enlightenment in order to accelerate sustainable development in the region and the country at large.

The association advocates for good governance and development by promoting excellence, hard work and equality. These it accomplishes through public enlightenment campaigns against corruption, public debates, lectures, rallies, and youth empowerment programs.

This region known as the Niger-Delta today is made up of the oil-producing states namely: Abia, Akwa-Ibom, Edo, Imo, Ondo and Rivers states respectively.



LETUS
Stamp out
Corruption
from our
Neighbourhood

Lokoja Fed Varsity VC wants Anti-Corruption in Non-Formal Sector

By Suleiman Achile, (Lokoja)

The Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University, Lokoja, Prof. Abdulmumin Hassan Rafindadi, has enjoined the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) to extend the anti-corruption crusade to the non-formal sector.

Prof. Rafindadi, who was represented by the Registrar of the university, Hajiya Habiba Adeiza, was speaking at the inauguration of the Anti-Corruption and Transparency monitoring Unit (ACTU) for the institution. He argued that corruption was not restricted to the public or formal sector but also thrived in the non-formal sector of the society

The don who lauded the ICPC for the launch of anti-corruption crusade in the institution, described the drive as another milestone in arresting the scourge of corruption pervading and permeating national and domestic lives of Nigerians.

He submitted thus: "the non-formal groups should be mobilized to key into this drive. These may include farmers, religious and artisan groups. It (ICPC) should also encourage setting up anti-corruption clubs in primary and secondary schools. This will help in nurturing a generation better minded in attitudes and virtues."

The VC looked forward to building a formidable institution through a sustained partnership with the Commission. The eight-man ACTU inaugurated by the Zonal Head, Kogi Zonal Office of ICPC, Mr. Henry O. Emore, were: Abdullahi Muhammed Bello of the vice chancellors office (chairman), Danjuma Jibrin Isah, internal audit unit (member), Adefokun S. Idowu, Student Affairs Division (Member), Dr. Adeshina Olanrewaju Lawal, Dept. of English and Lit-studies (member), Mr. Kizito Musa, Dept of Geology (member), Uche Onyedi, Bursary department (member) and Shamaki Nuhu, Snr. Asst. Registrar (secretary).

While presenting a paper entitled: *"Establishment, Role and Status of*

ACTUs: the Way forward for Effective Performance", Mr. Emore noted that "Since the Commission and its personnel cannot be everywhere, the members of ACTUs are to serve as the eyes and ears of the Commission in their various offices because as insiders, they ought to be privy to information an outsider would not hear."

He spelt out some of the major roles of ACTUs in MDAs streamlined to conform with the duties of the Commission under S.6 of the ICPC Act 2000 to include: act as eyes and ears of the Commission in their organizations; receive and carry out preliminary investigation on any report of corruption made to it; and

"Since the Commission and its personnel cannot be everywhere, the members of ACTUs are to serve as the eyes and ears of the Commission in their various offices because as insiders, they ought to be privy to information an outsider would not hear."

report all alleged or reported cases of corruption within their organization to the Commission, with copies sent to the head of that organization. Others are: to report cases involving the Heads or top management staff of their organization to ICPC; examine practices, systems and procedures in their organizations and where such practices and procedures aid corruption, to submit reports to the Head of their organization on how to change these systems and also to send such reports to the ICPC; and to educate internally, officials of their respective organizations through workshops, seminars and lectures.

On the way forward for effective performance of ACTUs, Mr. Emore declared that pursuant to Section 70 of the ICPC Act 2000, the Chairman of

the Commission had made the Standing Orders for the operations of ACTUs in MDAs.

He added that "the provisions of the Standing Orders are very instructive and if members of ACTUs adhere to them a lot would be achieved in the fight against corruption." The Zonal Head, therefore, urged the ACTU members to study the standing orders so that the provisions contained therein would be their guiding principles.

Mr. Emore further declared that "the fight against corruption can only be won if those involved in the crusade have the will to fight it, just as he charged that "as a member of ACTU, you must be a disciplined person and your performance in this institution must be an example for others to follow." He conclusively charged the members to continue to create awareness in the university, and among the generality of the Nigerian public, on the evils of corruption.

In his acceptance speech, the university ACTU chairman, Abdullahi Muhammed Bello, who thanked the ICPC and the VC for the opportunity given members to serve, said "We have accepted this challenge with hope, to do our best." He solicited for the collaboration and assistance from the Vice Chancellor and the university management, members of the university community and the Commission for guidance.

The chairman implored members of ACTU "to maintain a high degree of integrity, honesty and confidentiality in the discharge of their assignment." He hinted that given the fact that "...we did not canvass for this (ACTU membership) and, from information reaching me, each of us was selected for this assignment on his/her merit, we should, therefore, leave no stone unturned in our quest to justify the Vice Chancellor's and indeed, the Commission's confidence in us."

In attendance at the event were the Deans and Heads of Department of the university.

NAFDAC-ACTU Inaugurates Members, Launches Code of Ethics for Officers

By Anike Adeshina and Advent Boniface

Officers of the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Monitoring Unit (ACTU) in the National Agency for Food, Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) have been inaugurated. The event took place recently in Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

The inauguration was followed by the launching and public presentation of a twelve-paged Code of Conduct booklet on anti-corruption for NAFDAC staff.

The Code of Conduct document which is in line with the provisions of the Corrupt Practices Act, 2000 is expected to provide a template for the operations and conduct of staffers of NAFDAC.

Speaking during the inaugural ceremony, the Chairman, Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Mr. Ekpo Nta, who was represented by the Director, Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Department (CMED), Mr. Barnabas Gaji, explained the functions of ACTU to the inductees.

Some of the functions, according to the ICPC Chairman, include preliminary investigation into petitions received about activities of their organizations and making report of same to their management and eventually to the ICPC for further action.

Mr. Ekpo Nta emphasized that the combination of enforcement, preventive and educational responsibilities would provide a holistic framework for the fight

against corruption.

He charged the officers to "pay particular attention to the preventive and educational/public enlightenment duties," noting that because of the position they occupy, they are better placed to critically assess such systems and put forward recommendations for the review of those processes that are prone to corruption.

The ICPC Chairman also advised the newly inaugurated ACTU members to be responsible in discharging their ACTU duties and avoid any oppressive acts, while pledging that the Commission was more than ready to partner with NAFDAC to make the Nigerian Public Service in general and specifically NAFDAC, the pride of the nation.

Earlier, in his remarks, Director-General, NAFDAC, Dr. Paul Orhii, who was represented by the Director, Special Duties of the agency who also doubles as the ACTU Chairman, Alhaji Abubakar Jimoh, lauded the ICPC on the introduction of ACTUs, noting that the NAFDAC-ACTU inauguration was the first time anti-corruption fight was being given a huge lift in the NAFDAC.

He also stated that the role of NAFDAC-ACTU was to serve as a whistle-blower providing a channel for reporting corrupt activities. He added that NAFDAC was one of the federal agencies at the forefront of the fight against corruption.

The NAFDAC-ACTU Chairman said that corruption was not only limited to

money but included activities such as adulteration of food and drugs. He said that staff of NAFDAC were well-remunerated to ensure that they do not engage in corruption.

Accordingly, Mr.

Barnabas Gaji later administered the ACTU Oath of Allegiance on the newly-appointed members of NAFDAC-ACTU and urged them to be "men and women of integrity."

In his paper presentation on "*The Role of ACTUs in MDAs*," Mr. Richard Bello of Planning Research and Review (PRR) Department, ICPC, dwelt on the ICPC strategy for combating corruption through a three-pronged approach of enforcement, prevention measures, and education and public enlightenment which are derived from the functions of the Commission as captured in Section 6 (a) – (f) of the Corrupt Practices Act 2000. He also shed light on the origin of ACTU, the role of ACTU, its powers and functions and the duties of management and staff.

All these, according to Mr. Richard Bello, were to "effectively tackle corruption, deliver quality service as well as create and sustain a corruption-free and transparent working environment in NAFDAC and in Nigeria at large.

In the second paper presentation titled: "*Integrity and Transparency in the Work Environment*," Mr. Kennedy Ebhotemen of PRR Department, enjoined participants to cultivate the virtues of integrity, transparency and accountability in discharging their official responsibilities.

While enumerating factors which enhance transparency and integrity, Mr. Ebhotemen also underscored practices that could compromise integrity. He said such practices include; non-adherence to standard of Goods Manufacturing Practices (GMP), absence of conflict of interest guidelines, inconsistency in documentation of procedures, lack of public availability of such documents and inadequacy in monitoring and evaluation among others.

Copies of the Code of Conduct on Anti-Corruption for NAFDAC Staff were later distributed to all NAFDAC staff, the media and other invited guests present at the occasion.



ICPC Inaugurates ACTU for Hadejia- Jema'are River Basin Development Authority

From Kano

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission in its bid to rid Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of corruption recently inaugurated and swore-in the executive members of the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Monitoring Unit (ACTU), for the Hadeja-Jema'are River Basin Development Authority (HJRBDA).

Chairman of the ICPC, Mr. Ekpo Nta, who spoke through Mr. Sabiu Iliyasu, Head of ICPC Kano Office at the event in Kano, applauded the management of the HJRBDA for their firm determination to partner with the Commission in the fight against corruption.

Mr. Nta said, "ACTU in this organization was initiated in order to implement self-monitoring and internal cleansing mechanism, which if properly utilized is expected to be a catalyst for the transformation of the institution to a corruption-free environment."

In his paper presentation titled: "*Operational Structure of the ACTUs in the MDAs*," Mr. Sabiu Iliyasu, called on the management of the HJRBDA to see the ACTU members as partners in progress and not foes, and offer them all support needed for them to carry out their duties effectively.

Earlier in his opening remarks, Managing Director of the HJRBDA, Alhaji Abba Dahiru, praised the ICPC for its initiative and said the institution under his care was willing to partner with the Commission in the fight against corruption, thus preparing a corrupt-free Nigeria for the future generations.

**Score a Goal
against
CORRUPTION**

Corps-Members Told To Imbibe Value of Integrity

By Garba Aliyu (Kaduna) and Mohammed Kabir Alhaji(Lagos)

National Youth Corps-members have been enjoined to imbibe the positive values of integrity, honesty, transparency and accountability as they go into the larger society.

This call was made in Lagos by an officer of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Lagos Zonal Office, Mr. Iroka Sampson, during an interactive session with members of the NYSC/ICPC CDS at the Lagos Office.

Mr. Sampson who lamented that "40 percent of the money budgeted for infrastructure is lost to corruption said there was need for a change of attitude and that the youth must be catalysts for this change."

He therefore advised the youth to go into meaningful ventures that would better their lots rather than engage in social vices such as examination malpractice, fraud, cyber-crime and kidnapping.

While responding to a barrage of questions, Mr. Sampson also dismissed the perception held by some of the youth corps-members that the anti-corruption war is only fought at the lower level of the society while top corrupt government officials are treated as sacred cows, saying that the long arm of the law would catch up with everyone "irrespective of his social or political standing."

In a related development, the ICPC Kaduna Zonal Office has extended its education/public enlightenment campaign to the Batch C 2013 corps members at the NYSC orientation camp in Kaduna.

The campaign was to sensitize the youth corps members on the negative effects of corruption on the Nigerian society and how it has retarded the growth of the nation's socio-economic and political development.

In a paper presentation, Mr. Dauda Iliya, got the corps-members acquainted with the Commission's core mandate and called on them to be part of the struggle in the "fight against the hydra-headed monster called corruption."

“Youths – Major Victims of Corruption”

By Azuka Ogugua, Education Department

The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Mr. Ekpo Nta, has identified the youths as major victims of corruption. Speaking during the opening ceremony of the Anglophone West African Youth Integrity Camp organized by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) in collaboration with UNDP and Transparency International, recently in Lagos, the ICPC Chairman stated that corruption is a huge impediment to achieving set goals meant for the advancement of the youths and the security of their future including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

While urging the youths to be at the forefront of the fight to curb corruption in the West African sub-region, the Chairman said that ICPC recognizes the fact that young people wield tremendous influence and thus mobilizes them for the fight against corruption through various initiatives

such as the formation of Anti-Corruption Clubs in secondary schools, formation of Students Anti-Corruption Vanguard (SAVs) in tertiary institutions, infusion of the Commission's National Values Curriculum (NVC) into the curricula of different levels of education, and outreach to the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC). In addition to the above, he further informed the participants that the hosting of the Anglophone West Africa Youth Integrity Camp was yet another opportunity for the Commission to interact and equip the youths with important skills needed to tackle corruption.

The Chairman also hinged the Commission's interest in working with the youths on the African Youth Charter which acknowledges that Africa's youthful population was the continent's greatest resource; and that through their active and full participation, Africans could surmount the difficulties that face them.

In a final charge to the participants, the Chairman urged them to open their minds to learn as much as they could and to share with others their experiences. Reminding them that they were selected out of several hundred applicants, he counselled them to make the most of the Camp and be ready to share the lessons learnt with their peers who could not make it to the camp.

Other dignitaries at the Opening Ceremony included Mr. Toba Otusanya, representative of the Lagos State Governor; Mrs. Oluremi Akinsoji, representative of the Minister for Youth Development; Prof. Sam Egwu, representative of the UNDP Country Office; Ms. Marie-Ange Kalenga, representative of Transparency International, Berlin; Mr. Bolaji Salami, representative of the EFCC Chairman; General Ebrima Bah, Deputy High Commissioner of the Gambia; and Chief (Dr) Mrs. Opral Benson, Honorary Consul, Republic of Liberia.

DO YOU WISH TO REPORT ANY ACT OF CORRUPTION?

You must consider the fight against corruption a personal cause. It is a struggle for the betterment of our lives as individuals, as a nation and for generations yet unborn. The battle must be approached collectively, tenaciously and holistically with all the seriousness and doggedness it deserves.

Report any act of corruption to the ICPC Headquarters, Plot 802, Constitution Avenue, Central Business District, Abuja or the nearest ICPC State office in the following states and addresses:

- **ADAMAWA:** No. 3 Mayo Inc Street, Jimeta, Yola.
- **AKWAIBOM:** No. 55D-Line, Ewet Housing Estate, Uyo.
- **BAUCHI:** Plot 10946 Yahaya Abubakar Link, Off Federal Secretariat Road, GRA Bauch
- **BENUE:** Along Ochagwu Lawani Street, Off Otukpo Road, New GRA Makurdi.
- **EDO:** No. 81, Boundary Road, Benin City.
- **ENUGU:** No. 55B Ezilo Street, Independence Layout, Enugu.
- **IMO:** Plot 100, Works Layout, Sister N. Ajaelu Street, Owerri.

- **KADUNA:** No. 7 Wurno Road G.R.A off Rabah Road, Kaduna
- **KANO:** No. 417, Shehu Kazaure Street, Off Mohammed Road, Hotoro GRA, Kano
- **KOGI:** Behind the State Secretariat, Off Barracks Road, Lokoja.
- **LAGOS:** No. 10, Okotie Eboh Street, Ikoyi-Lagos
- **OSUN:** No. 5, Olu Alabi Street, G. R.A Okesia, Oshogbo.
- **OYO:** No. 19B, University Crescent, Old Bodija Estate, Ibadan
- **RIVERS:** 4 Chief A.K Horsfall Street, off Williams Jumbo drive, Old G.R.A, Port Harcourt.
- **SOKOTO:** No. 18, Sama Road, Gwiwa Layout, Sokoto.

You may also report through the following Toll Free Telephone numbers:

MTN:	GLO:
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0803 123 0281	0705 699 0191
0803 123 0282	

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**UP-DATE OF CRIMINAL CASES IN VARIOUS COURTS
HANDLED BY PROSECUTION DEPARTMENT, ICPC - ABUJA
FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER TO 20th DECEMBER, 2013**

CHARGE NO.	PARTIES	COURT	STATE	STATUS	DATE
SS/19C/2010	FRN VS LAWAL GARBA & ANOR	H/C SOKOTO	SOKOTO STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	10/09/2013
BA/37C/2008	FRN VS YAKUBU SHEHU FANTI	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI STATE	FOR ADDRESS ON NO CASE SUBMISSION	23/09/2013
KTH/20C/2010	FRN VS	H/C KATSINA	KATSINA STATE	FOR RULING ON NO CASE SUBMISSION	23/09/2013
AK32C/2006	FRN VS DELE FAGORIOLA	H/C AKURE	ONDO STATE	FOR HEARING	24/09/2013
F/13C/2009	FRN VS ALH. YUSUF SADIQ & ORS	H/C YOLA	ADAMAWA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	25/09/2013
ZMS/GS/22C/2010	FRN VS BELLO MOH'D SHALLAH	H/C GUSAU	ZAMFARA STATE	FOR COMMENCEMENT OF HEARING	23-24/09/2013
A/ICPC/1C/2007	FRN VS PETER OBONYANO	H/C KWALE	DELTA STATE	FOR ADOPTION OF FINAL ADDRESS	26/9/2013
B/ICPC/2C/2012	FRN VS MICHAEL AIDEYAN & 2, ORS	H/C BENIN	EDO STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	26/09/2013
B/ICPC/1C/2012	FRN VS DAVID OJO & 4, ORS	H/C BENIN	EDO STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	26/9/2013
I/3C/ICPC/2007	FRN VS TAJUDEEN OLALERE	H/C IBADAN	OYO STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	27/9/2013
NSD/LF 37C/2011	FRN VS OLUWALE JAMES ADELABU	H/C LAFIA	NASARAWA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	27/9/2013
ID/53C/2013	FRN VS DANLADI NYASHI	H/C LAGOS	LAGOS STATE	FOR HEARING	29/9/2013
HOW/49C/2009	FRN VS DENNIS IKE	H/C OWERRI	IMO STATE	FOR RULING	30/09/2013
HU/79C/2010	FRN VS JULIE NWOKOCHA & ORS	H/C UMUAHIA	ABIA STATE	FOR ADOPTION OF ADDRESSE	2/10/2013
E/3C/2008	FRN VS DR. TONY ONYHACHI	H/C ENUGU	ENUGU STATE	DEFENCE TO OPEN IT'S CASE	2/10/2013
MH/39C/2012	FRN VS EMMANUEL OGWUCHE	H/C MAKURDI	BENUE STATE	FOR HEARING	2/10/2013
FHC/YL/126C/2010	FRN VS JOHN EDDIE MANASSAH	FHC YOLA	ADAMAWA STATE	FOR ADOPTION OF WRITTEN ADDRESSES	3/10/2013
BA/28C/2008	FRN VS SULE MAMUDA & ORS	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	3/10/2013
NSD/LF 20C/2006	FRN VS YAKUBU ISHAKU & ANOR	H/C LAFIA	NASARAWA STATE	FOR HEARING	3-4/10/2013
PHC/53C/2009	FRN VS ADOLPHUS ORUBIENIMIGHA	H/C PORT HARCOURT	RIVERS STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	4/10/2013
FRN/11C/2010	FRN VS JOHN EDDIE MANASSAH	H/C YOLA	ADAMAWA STATE	FOR MENTION	8/10/2013
BA/22C/2010	FRN VS AHMED MOHAMMED ZUBO & ANOR	H/C BAUCHI	BACHI STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARIG	8/10/2013
PHC/639C/2010	FRN VS MORDECAI OGBOGU	H/C PORT HARCOURT	RIVERS STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	8-9/10/2013
HOS/2C/2009	FRN VS PRINCE SOLA OYEDEJI	H/C OSHOGBO	OSUN STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	9/10/2013
BA/28C/2008	FRN VS IBRAHIM MOHAMMED & ORS	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI STATE	FOR HEARING OF APPLICATION ON NO CASE SUBMISSION	15/10/2013
HC/37C/2009	FRN VS HON. KALASELE STANLEY	H/C YENAGOA	BAYELSA STATE	FOR ADDRESS	14/10/2013

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**UP-DATE OF CRIMINAL CASES IN VARIOUS COURTS
HANDLED BY PROSECUTION DEPARTMENT, ICPC - ABUJA**

FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER TO 20TH DECEMBER, 2013

AK/1C/2012	FRN VS BODE OLAWOYE & ANOR	H/C AKURE	ONDO STATE	FOR COMMENCEMENT OF DEFENCE	15-16/10/2013
F/13C/2009	FRN VS ALH. YUSUF SADIQ & ORS	H/C YOLA	ADAMAWA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	2/12/2013
ICPC/5C/2007	FRN VS MARY CHIDI & 4, ORS	H/C ASABA	DELTA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	2/12/2013
A/86C/2008	FRN VS HON SUNNY OBI	H/C AWKA	ANAMBRA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	3/12/2013
NSD/LF/17C/2011	FRN VS HON. SAIDU MUSA & ORS	H/C LAFIA	NASARAWA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	4/12/2013
HOS/2C/2009	FRN VS PRINCE SOLA OYEDEJI	H/C OSHOGBO	OSUN STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	4/12/2013
HU/79C/2010	FRN VS JULIE NWOKOCHA & 2, ORS	H/C UMUAHIA	ABIA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	4/12/2013
B/ICPC/1C/2009	FRN VS DAVID OJO & 4 ORS	H/C BENIN	EDO STATE	FOR ADOPTION OF WRITTEN ADDRESSES	6/12/2013
HAB/ICPC/2C/2013	FRN VS DR. HENRY ALOH & Ors	H/C ABAKALIKI	EBONYI STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	9-10/12/2013
BA/22c/2010	FRN VS AHMED MOHAMMED ZUBO	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	10/12/2013
AK/33C/2006	FRN VS GBENGA OJO & ANOR	H/C AKURE	ONDO STATE	FOR JUDGMENT	10/12/2013
HU/54C/2011	FRN VS SYLVESTER UBAZI	H/C UMUAHIA	ABIA STATE	FOR RULING	11/12/2013
HOW/49C/2009	FRN VS DENNIS IKE	H/C OWERRI	IMO STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	12/12/2013
PLD/23C/2007	FRN VS SGT. PETER ABBAH	H/C JOS	PLATEAU STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	13/12/2013
FHC/YL/126C/2010	FRN VS JOHN EDDIE MANASSAH	H/C YOLA	ADAMAWA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	13/12/2013
B/ICPC/3C/2012	FRN VS AKOMAH ALBERT OTIMEYIN	H/C ASABA	DELTA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	16/12/2013
	FRN VS AGBOLADE ADEKUNLE	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI STATE	FOR APPLICATION TO PREFER A CRIMINAL CHARGE	16/12/2013
CR/53C/2009	FRN VS MR. E. N. IBOR	H/C CALABAR	CROSS RIVER STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	16/12/2013
AK/1C/2012	FRN VS BODE OLAWOLE & ANOR	H/C AKURE	ONDO STATE	FOR RULING	16-17/12/2013
BA/28C/2008	FRN VS IBRAHIM MUH'D & 3, ORS	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI STATE	FOR ADOPTION OF WRITTEN ADDRESSES	17/12/2013
B/ICPC/1C/2013	FRN VS PHILIP SHUAIBU	H/C BENIN	EDO STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	17/12/2013
	FRN VS PROF. PAUL AJAH & ANOR	H/C ABAKALIKI	EBONYI STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	17/12/2013
B/ICPC/3C/2013	FRN VS SAMED GLOBAL SERVICES & ORS	H/C BENIN	EDO STATE	FOR ARRAIGNMENT	20/12/2013

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