



ICPC NEWS

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ICPC can prosecute without Petitions - Court of Appeal rules

The Court of Appeal, sitting in Makurdi, Benue State, has ruled that the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other related Offences Commission (ICPC) has powers to investigate and prosecute cases without receiving petitions.

The ICPC had approached the Court of Appeal, Makurdi Division, asking the court to set aside the ruling of a Nasarawa State High Court which had

discharged and acquitted the Chairman and the Director of Finance of Toto Local Government Council of Nasarawa State of corrupt practices.

Justice Isa A. Ramalan, now a retired judge of the State High Court 3, Lafia, had in his ruling discharged and acquitted the two accused persons of an "11- count charge of conspiracy to inflate prices of stationery; and furnishing of false information of all contrary to Sections 26[1][c]; 22[3]; 19; and 16 of

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ICPC Chairman, Mr. Ekpo Nta (middle) interacting with Rani Malick Head of Lagos office, Indian High Commission (left) with another foreign participant during the Visa Acquisition Lecture that took place in Lagos

Photo by Solomon Kogi

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

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ncial Cris (ion)



ICPC Chairman, Ekpo Nta

“Women generally form about 45% of the population; so they are a viable force that you must take into reckoning.

'When we are doing public enlightenment, if you are able to convince one mother on your anti-corruption strategy, then you are sure that the mother will take a firm grip of her home. All the kids will listen to her because she spends more time with them and she begins to socialize them against all those processes that you know lead to crime. So we are working a lot on this.

'Currently I am talking to women groups that you can actually help your husbands who are in political positions. That in the event of an infraction, it is your family, wife and kids who will be the major victims. So you should take an interest in what your husband is doing in public office.”

Mr. Ekpo Nta, ICPC Chairman

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ICPC can prosecute without Petitions - Court of Appeal rules

the ICPC Act”.

Dissatisfied with the decision of the lower court, the ICPC through its prosecutor, Mr. Enosa Omoghibo, in an application, asked the Court of Appeal to set aside the judgment of the trial court, saying it was reached in error.

On Friday 2nd May, 2014, the justices of the Court of Appeal, Makurdi Division, delivered judgement on the matter in favour of the respondents, absolving them of any wrong-doings.

On the other issue brought before the court, which was, whether the ICPC had powers to investigate allegations not contained in the petition; and whether investigating and prosecuting the accused amounted to abusing the Commission's powers, the presiding judge, Hon. Justice Obande F. Ogbunya of the Court of Appeal made copious pronouncements on the powers of the Commission as provided for in Sections 6[a] and 27[3] of the Act.

The court noted that “... a petition is just a guide and it is not ultra vires the powers of the Commission to

investigate and prosecute offences outside a petition or initiate investigations and prosecutions without a petition.”

The judgement says in part, "A communal reading of the sacrosanct provisions of Sections 6(a) and 27(3) of the Act ...allots expansive and all-encompassing powers of investigations and prosecution to the Commission. From the unambiguous tenor of those provisions, once the Commission is satisfied that there is/are ground(s) that an offence is committed under the Act or in any other statute, it is clothed with the power to investigate and prosecute the culprits in deserving circumstances. The offence must not be contained in a report..."

Consequently, the court resolved this issue in favour of the Commission and against the respondents.

The implication of this landmark judicial pronouncement by the justices of the Court of Appeal is that it has now laid to rest misconceptions in some quarters as to whether the ICPC can initiate investigations without relying on petitions.

ICPC docks retired Deputy Director for Fraud, Mutilation of Records

By Inalegwu Shaibu

A retired deputy director from the office of the Attorney General of the Federation (AGF), Mr. Akpan Ekanem has been arraigned before Justice Chinedu Oriji of an Abuja High Court sitting in Apo, by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) for allegedly defrauding the Federal Government of N213, 910 and mutilation of records

The ICPC in a 5-count charge preferred against Mr. Ekanem alleged that he falsely applied for and collected the sum of N213, 910 from the coffers of the Federal Government as transfer allowance for hotel and transportation for the first 28 days, after claiming that he was

posted from Enugu to Abuja.

The Commission also accused Mr. Ekanem of furnishing government with false claims to commit the alleged fraud by claiming that he was on transfer from Enugu when he was actually posted from the Ministry of Education, Abuja to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

The alleged fraud was committed between June and July 2006 when he was an Assistant Chief Accountant in the office of the AGF.

The charge sheet reads in part, "That you James Akpan Ekanem, in 2006 in Abuja while acting as an Assistant Chief Accountant in the office of the AGF, committed an offence by collecting N213, 910 as transfer

allowance for hotel and transportation after presenting a signed letter claiming that you were on transfer from Enugu instead of the Ministry of Education, Abuja.

'That you, James Akpan Ekanem sometime in July 2006 in Abuja, received the sum of N213, 910 as transfer allowance for the first 28 days from the coffers of the government.

'That you, James Akpan Ekanem on the 7th of June 2007 made a statement to the ICPC officers that you have not been paid relocation allowance which was false.

'That you, James Akpan Ekanem with the intent to conceal a crime of corruption, destroyed two pages of your personal file

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Law School Accountant charged for Forgery, Fraud

By Robert Ayakpat.

The Head of Accounts of the Nigerian Law School, Kano Campus, Mohammed Sanusi Musa has been arraigned before a Kano Federal High Court by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) for alleged forgery and fraud.

Mallam Musa was alleged to have defrauded the Law school of over N24 Million in the course of performing his duties as Head of Accounts of the school.

In the charge sheet filed by Mr. George Lawal, the ICPC counsel, the accused person was said to have fraudulently forged a Unity Bank, Plc. cheque book of the Law School and collected over N24 million between June and August, 2011.

Mr. Lawal averred that the offence was contrary to Section 1(2)(a) of the Miscellaneous Offences Act and punishable under Section 1(2)(c) of the Miscellaneous Offences Act.

In the charge sheet with reference number FHC/K/CR/118/2014, Mr. Lawal informed the court that between June and August, 2011 the accused person forged different cheques totalling N24 million with intent to defraud the Federal Government of Nigeria.

Musa pleaded not guilty to all the charges. His counsel, Mr. M.B. Danazumi, asked the court to grant his client bail.

The presiding judge, Justice Fatun Odohi Riman, after listening to the submissions of the two counsels granted the accused person bail on the following conditions: bail at N100 million and two sureties in like sum who must be civil servants on GL 14.

Justice Riman later adjourned the case to 30th October, 2014 for commencement of hearing.

ICPC Arraigns Assistant Commandant for Perjury

By Ajah Joy Azuka

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has arraigned Barbara Osinachi Ekeocha, an Assistant Commandant with the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) before Justice Hussein Baba Yusuf of an Abuja High court on a 13-count charge bordering on perjury.

The prosecution counsel, Paul Ahmed Bassi Esq., told the court that the accused had lied under oath to the Commissioner for Oaths, Federal Capital Territory Judiciary, Abuja, when she deposed on oath that

she had no undeveloped plots whereas she had 13 plots of land in 13 different locations which included 4 plots at 4 different locations at the Civil Defence Estate, Lugbe and 9 plots of land in 9 locations within the Civil Defence City, Rafin Karshi, Nasarawa State.

Her action is a violation of Section 25(1) (a) and punishable under Section 25(1) (b) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000. She pleaded not guilty to all the charges and the case has been adjourned to 11th November, 2014 for hearing.

Christian Council of Nigeria organises Schools Club Anti-corruption Day

By Olufemi Nofiu and Roseline Maduako

The Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN) organized a one-day Schools' Club Anti-Corruption Day recently in Lagos to bring together members of anti-corruption clubs in secondary schools in Lagos State.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Olufemi Nofiu of ICPC Lagos Zonal office in his paper titled "Overcoming Corruption Challenges in Schools", commended the efforts of the CCN in improving the decaying values and the drop in moral standards in our schools and society while also harping on the challenges facing schools such as examination malpractice, cultism, prostitution, drug addiction etc.

He also highlighted and explained the duties of the Commission as enumerated in Section 6(a-f) of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000, the various youth-targeted programmes which include anti-corruption clubs and vanguards, ICPC/NYSC anti-corruption CD groups at NYSC camps, integrity lecture series, the university study system and review amongst others.

Finally, Mr Nofiu called on everyone present to take charge of the fight against corruption by reporting,

rejecting and resisting corruption in whatever form it comes.

Earlier, Rev. Wushishi, president of the Christian Council of Nigeria, Lagos, in his welcome address, had called on all Nigerians to identify with the anti-corruption campaign so that Nigeria could be great again.

The event had in attendance about 140 students and their supervisory teachers from different missionary schools in Lagos.

Visa Scam: ICPC arrests 32 persons

By Inalegwu Shaibu

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), has arrested 32 people for allegedly issuing fake visas to unsuspecting Nigerians seeking to travel abroad.

ICPC Chairman, Mr. Ekpo Nta who disclosed this while receiving the Indian High Commissioner to Nigeria, Mr. A. Ghanashyam in his office also stated that the Commission had started prosecuting 13 of those arrested over the visa scams in law courts.

Mr. Nta also revealed that ICPC was partnering with all the embassies in Nigeria to reduce the incidence of visa scam within the country, as he called on Nigerians to come over to the Commission to claim the over 325 international passports seized from the visa scam syndicate. He said, "We have started intervention in visa scam. We have arrested 32 people and have taken 13 of them to court. We will keep pressure on them until we clean up the entire sector.

'Other embassies have

approached the Commission and we are going to extend our services to them. We are also working with banks to ensure that the syndicate does not get clearance from them to apply for visa.

'I also want to use this medium to call on Nigerians to come and claim the 325 international passports that we seized from the syndicate. We have made announcements and nobody is coming forward. I want to state here that the passports would not be used as punitive measures against the owners; they are free to come and collect them.", he concluded.

Earlier, the Indian High Commissioner, Mr. Ghanashyam who lauded efforts of the Commission, had also called for partnership between Nigeria and his country, especially in the areas of economy, health

and anti-corruption.

He said Nigeria was on the march to becoming one of the top economies in the world, arguing that the country ought to take its rightful place as the leader of Africa.

The High Commissioner also disclosed that over 40,000 people apply for visa to India on a yearly basis because of the robust relationship between the two countries, adding that effort was on by the Indian government to establish good medical facilities in Nigeria to reduce the cost of going to India for medical treatments.

His words "I have heard many good things about ICPC. We are here to learn something from you. We can share our experiences, we can tell you about our mistakes so that you do not make them.

'We see a Nigeria in the future that is not just a leader of West Africa, but

leader of Africa. There is no reason why Nigeria should not start leading right now. We believe Nigeria can lead Africa. Today, we depend on China, the US; a day will come that we would have to depend on Nigeria."

On the move to establishing medical facilities in Nigeria, he said, "Everybody is going to India because that is where the best doctors are, that is where the best hospitals are. But we are trying to bring them here so that people do not have to go to India."

ICPC Visits Ministry of Transport ACTU

By Robert Ayakpat

The Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Department (CMED) of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), in its bid to strengthen the Anti-Corruption and

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The Indian High Commissioner Ghanashyam (middle) in a group photograph with the ICPC Chairman & members of the Commission during a visit

Photo by Solomon Kogi

Civil Servant in Court for Receiving Double Monthly Salary

By Robert Ayakpat

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), has arraigned one Adotse Odang Anthony, before Justice S. Garba of the FCT High Court in Maitama, Abuja for fraudulently earning double monthly emoluments.

He was a pool staff in the Office of the Accountant General of the Federation (OAGF) and was later posted on secondment to the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing headquarters and subsequently to the Federal Ministry of Education headquarters in Abuja.

Anthony was dragged to court on a 9-count charge of fraudulent engagement in the unwholesome act of the falsification of his identity via his personnel records thus aiding the fraudulent and dishonest receipt of double monthly emoluments: acts which are contrary to Section 19 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 and punishable under the same section.

He pleaded not guilty to each of the 9-counts contained in the charge and was subsequently granted bail in the sum of Two Million naira (N2, 000,000), with two sureties in like sum. Each of the two sureties was to be a person of integrity who must be resident within the FCT and was to deposit his international passport with the Registry of the court.

The matter was then adjourned to a later date for commencement of trial with hearing of testimonies of prosecution witnesses.

Chief Of Staff to the President Commends ICPC

By Sani Tukur

The Chief of Staff to the President, Brigadier General Jones Oladehinde (rtd) has commended the effort of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) towards curbing the menace of corruption despite its prevalence in the country. He made this commendation

Mr. Barnabas B. Gaji expressed satisfaction towards the achievement recorded by the ACTU in the State House describing it as one of the best.

when a delegation from the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) paid a visit to the State House of the Federation, as part of the ongoing assessment of Anti-Corruption and Transparency monitoring Units in ministries, departments and agencies. General Oladehinde stated that corruption was not just about money but that it was hydra headed; adding that, "If one refuses to discharge one's duty well or closes from work earlier than one ought to, that amounts to corruption".

The ICPC team, led by the Head of the Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Department (CMED) Mr.

Barnabas B. Gaji, was in the State House on an assessment tour to identify peculiar challenges facing its Anti-Corruption and Transparency Monitoring Unit (ACTU) and to strengthen and make it better-positioned and equipped to check corruption in the State House.

Mr. Barnabas B. Gaji expressed satisfaction towards the achievement recorded by the ACTU in the State House describing it as one of the best.

On his part, the permanent secretary in the State House, Mr. Emmanuel Ogbile, assured Mr. Gaji of his support and cooperation at all times towards the achievement of the desired goal.

The ACTU Chairman, State House Ahamed I.S. said that since the inauguration of the unit on 4th February, 2014 it had recorded tremendous achievements in the 2014 ACTU work plan. And that it had held interactive sessions with the representatives of staff unions, Heads of Departments and ICPC desk officer.

He disclosed that a Toyota Hilux had been provided for effective operations of the unit and office accommodation had been allocated for the chairman's office and the ACTU secretariat.

He called on ICPC to "relate strongly" with the Budget Office of the federation to ensure that ACTU was given a subhead in 2015 budget template.

ICPC Arraigns NSCDC Officer with N115m balance in his Accounts for Fraud

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has arraigned Margret Onoja, a Deputy Superintendent with the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), before an FCT High Court for alleged fraud.

The Commission's prosecutor, Mr. Paul Bassi, alleged that Onoja had lied to officers of the ICPC on the number of bank accounts she was operating while filling her Suspect Data Form.

He told the court that the action of the accused violated Section 25 (1) (a) of the Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Act, 2000, and

therefore she had committed perjury.

The accused was alleged to have concealed the ownership and operation of a Zenith Bank Account with number 6216501714 in her company's name, Shekina Glory Cooperative Society Ltd.

According to the prosecutor, the accused was the sole signatory to the Zenith Bank account with a N75 million balance.

Bassi told the court that the accused had also concealed the existence of a First Bank account with the balance of N40 million.

He said Onoja also operated a Fortis Micro

Finance Bank account.

The offence, according to the prosecutor, was contrary to Section 25 (1) and punishable under Section 25 (1b) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act.

If convicted, Onoja could be imprisoned for two years or with an option to pay a fine of N100, 000, or both.

The accused, however, pleaded not guilty to the charge.

After arraignment, Onoja's counsel, Enemle Ejoke, urged the court to admit his client to bail. He assured the court that the accused would not jump bail, if it was granted.

Bassi, however, opposed the bail application.

Justice Hussein Baba-Yusuf, in his ruling, however, admitted the accused to a bail of N500, 000 and a surety in like sum, and that the surety must be a property owner resident within the FCT.

The judge also gave an order for the accused to be remanded in Suleja prison, if she failed to meet the bail conditions and adjourned hearing in the case to Nov. 11, 2014.

It is noteworthy that the accused, Margret Onoja, is one of several public officers being investigated by the ICPC for massive land and housing racketeering in the FCT and Nasarawa State.

Bribery: Court sentences Chief Security Officer to 33 years Imprisonment

By Folu Olamiti

Delta State High Court sitting in Warri has sentenced the Chief Security Officer of Delta State Polytechnic, Mr Peter Obonyamo, to 33 years imprisonment, having been convicted of corrupt acts.

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) had dragged Mr Obonyamo to court on a 9 – count charge for demanding N150, 000 gratification from a contractor with

the Delta State Polytechnic, Ozoro.

He was also charged for actually receiving N100, 000 from the contractor.

His arrest came through a sting operation by ICPC operatives as he was collecting N100, 000 marked money.

Delivering judgment, Justice Briki-Okolosi held that the prosecution had proven its case beyond reasonable doubt on 4 counts of the charges while he struck out 2 counts for duplicity.

The court also sentenced the convict to five years imprisonment without an option of fine on 1 of the counts.

The court further held that 3 counts were not proven beyond reasonable doubt.

However, the court sentenced Mr Obonyamo to seven years imprisonment on each of 4 counts with an option of N20, 000 fines on each count.

The court also sentenced the convict to five years imprisonment without an option of fine on 1 of the counts.

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

Enugu Police Commissioner Sues for Inter – Agency Co-operation

By Nwozor Chinwe (Enugu)

The Commissioner of Police, Enugu State Command, Mr Adamu Abubakar Mohammed, has reiterated the resolution of the Nigerian Police Force to join hands with all law enforcement agencies to eradicate crime and corruption from the nation, stressing that inter-agency co-operation was essential for the fight against corruption to be successful.

He stated this when Principal Officers of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) Enugu Zonal Office, led by the Zonal Head Mr. Arua Udonsi, paid him a courtesy visit in his office recently.

Mr. Mohammed decried the devastating effects of corruption which had affected every sector of the society and would continue to undermine good governance and national development if left unchecked. He urged the ICPC to turn its searchlight more on the activities of public servants in different ministries and organisations, pointing out that if corruption in the public service was curbed, it would go a long way in reducing the scourge of corruption in Nigeria.

The Police Commissioner said the Nigerian Police Force being the mother of all the law enforcement agencies would always join hands with anti-corruption agencies to make sure societal vices were wiped out from our society. He called on all the other law enforcement agencies to join hands with the ICPC to wage a successful war against corruption.

In his own speech, Mr. Udonsi spoke on the activities of the Commission and noted that ICPC being a young organisation compared to other law enforcement agencies, could not fight the menace of corruption alone, so needed the support and encouragement of the public and other agencies to effectively combat corruption in Nigeria. He said the nation had suffered severe losses economically and socially as a result of endemic corruption.

The ICPC Enugu Zonal Head, while explaining the preventive, enforcement and public Enlightenment mandates of the Commission, said the ICPC was committed to the application of the law with firmness and fairness, but that the kernel of its anti-corruption strategy was to also transform men; and to mobilize and convert

Civil Servant docked for Forgery, Fraud

By Ruth Awodi

An official of the Federal Ministry of Health, Abuja Mr. Ekene Onyia has been re-arraigned by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) before Abuja High Court over N837, 000 fraud.

The ICPC, in a 5-count charge preferred against him, the accused person Mr. Onyia, was alleged to have fraudulently received the sum of N837, 000 from the Federal Ministry of Health by forging a document belonging to Volente De Dieu, a limited liability company and contractor to the Ministry of Health, and using same to facilitate the diversion of the company's contract payment into his personal account.

Counsel to the ICPC, Mrs. Bridget Olotu said the accused person received the sum of N837, 000 being the contract sum belonging to Volente De Dieu, a contractor with the Federal Ministry of Health.

She told the Court that the act was contrary to Section 13 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000, and punishable under Section 68 of the same Act.

Mr. Onyia pleaded not guilty to all the charges. His counsel, Mr. Ebenezer Akindulii, asked the court to extend his bail, stating that the accused had met all its terms and had never jumped bail.

Having listened to the bail application, the presiding judge, Justice Sylvanus Oriji in his ruling extended the bail of the accused on the condition that he swore to an affidavit on or before 22nd July 2014.

The case was adjourned till 24th September, 2014 for commencement of hearing.

them into foot soldiers against the corrupt in the society. He said the Commission employed a more pragmatic operational strategy in the discharge of its duties by emphasizing prevention through system review, public enlightenment, mobilization and education of the public on and against the ills of corruption.

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ICPC, NAON Educate Teachers and Students on Corruption

By Ozi Agualize (Enugu)

In a bid to enlighten teachers and students on the ills of corruption and other social vices prevalent in secondary schools, the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) collaborated with the Naturecratic Association of Nigeria (NAON) a non-governmental organisation and a member of ICPC National Anti-Corruption Coalition, to carry out a sensitisation programme tagged "School Anti-corruption Club Project" which was aimed at training the minds of teachers and students positively towards a better society.

The maiden edition of the programme kicked-off at the New World International School, Onitsha, Anambra State, where all the students and teachers converged for the sensitisation.

In his welcome address, the Proprietor of New World International Schools, Dr Alpha Justice stated that, corruption had caused so much damage to national development leading to insecurity of lives and properties. He said corruption had negatively affected all the sectors of the economy especially the education system where examination malpractice had become a worrisome

phenomenon.

According to him, the collaboration of the anti-graft agency and the non-governmental organisation to educate and enlighten teachers and students on the issue was a laudable approach which if adhered to, would re-orientate and change mind-sets positively. Dr Justice further urged teachers and students to cooperate with the

He added that the mind training programme would make the child not to cheat, play truancy, do drugs or engage in exam malpractice.

resource persons so as to rid the school of corruption, examination malpractices and other social vices.

Speaking on *Scope and Purpose of Integrity*, the Assistant Chief Superintendent Officer of the ICPC Enugu zonal office, Mr. Ezech Ansel, explained that, integrity "...is having strong moral principles devoid of corrupt tendencies and being self-disciplined." He added that a person of integrity was an honest person because he would not falsify facts nor tell lies even when he might be punished in the circumstances.

He noted that, teachers were agents of change employed to transform the minds of students by inculcating high moral values in them, saying "if the teachers gathered here commit themselves to transparency, integrity and sincere due process, the war against corruption will be won in this school. And by replication and ripple effect, the remaining staff and students not here present

would imbibe the spirit".

Contributing, the programme secretary of Naturecratic Association of Nigeria (NAON), Mrs Melvina Ezeiruaku said that corruption had killed dignity of labour in the society as a result; teachers no longer attached importance to their job as agents of change any more. She applauded ICPC for designing the integrity code which she said was aimed at restructuring the mind and social behaviour of students and teachers in order to minimise corruption in the school environment.

Mrs Ezeiruaku urged

teachers and students to imbibe the spirit of integrity and see the integrity code as an important tool for change. She concluded by saying "When children are impacted with good values, they will in turn exhibit good behaviours".

In his own remarks, the National Coordinator of Naturecratic Association of Nigeria (NAON), Prince Chinedu Nsoffor said corruption was in the mind and was a cankerworm that ate up one's ability and made it hollow. He stated that for a teacher to win the battle of corruption such as lateness, truancy, absenteeism, sexual harassment, extortion, indecent dressing and examination malpractices he should first work on his mind, saying "The mind is man's thinking factory, where all his thought processes take place that is why if one thinks positively he will act positively".

He maintained that teachers should always see themselves as agents of change and so train the minds of students positively. He added that the mind training programme would make the child not to cheat, play truancy, do drugs or engage in exam malpractice.

DO NOT GIVE
OR TAKE
BRIBE

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...Enugu State DSS Director pledges Support

Similarly, the Enugu state Director, State Security Service, Mr. Victor Duru also pledged his unalloyed support in the fight against corruption when the ICPC team visited him in his office recently. He promised to always give information to the Commission that would help to stop corruption or arrest perpetrators of corrupt practices, stressing that the operations of the organisation were to provide security and procure accurate, timely and appropriate intelligence for the nation.

He commended the efforts of ICPC officials in combating corruption and advised them not to relent in their struggle to sanitize the country. While describing the Commission's job as "a tall-order" he said "history will give credit to ICPC and other agencies that have laboured and continued to labour for the elimination, drastic reduction or extermination of corruption in Nigeria. We all pray, hope and believe that our society will soon be corruption - free. We also pray the perpetrators become ashamed of their devious acts and desist from such evil conducts"

Mr. Duru stressed the need to seek a deeper understanding of the concept of corruption for the war against pervasive corruption to be won, adding that the fight would take a multi- dimensional approach, since it required more than just arresting people.

...NTA Enugu Centre pledges Support too

In a related development, the Enugu ICPC officials also called on the Nigerian Television Authority, NTA Enugu Zonal Centre to seek areas of collaboration between the two organisations in the fight against corruption.

The Zonal Head, Mr. Udonsi urged NTA to give their support in the area of broadcasting the Commission's public enlightenment programmes that would educate the public on what constitutes corrupt practices and how to shun and report the incidence of corruption to anti-corruption agencies. He expressed some concern over the high cost of broadcasting the Commission's activities.

Responding, the Acting Managing Director, Mr. Mathew Satariki, said one of the greatest tools in combating corruption was the use of media to inform and educate the masses on what to do to avoid and eradicate corrupt practices. He affirmed that information regarding the activities of the Commission needed to be sufficiently made available to the public and promised to do everything within the resources of the NTA to ensure effective collaboration with the Commission in bringing her activities to the public domain.

He however, complained of lack of funds and said they needed money from the public to effectively run the station. While promising to grant the Commission some discount if it came up with special programmes that would be aired weekly in the station, Mr. Satariki pointed out that the platform would also help to adequately bring the ICPC activities to the public.

'Corruption blossoms on Cover-ups' – ICPC Sec

By Ajah Joy Azuka

The Secretary to the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Mr. Elvis Oglafa has urged civil servants not to cover up corrupt acts in government ministries, departments and agencies.

Mr. Oglafa who gave the charge when he received members of the Anti-Corruption Monitoring Unit (ACTU) of the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC) on a visit to the Commission's headquarters recently noted that corruption thrives on lack

of transparency.

He said he appreciated the zeal of the ACTU to fight corruption in RMRDC noting that "the ICPC relies on information to work effectively and efficiently which is the essence of establishing the ACTU so there shouldn't be any cover-up of corrupt practices".

He stressed that Nigerians had the culture of covering up for one another simply because of parochial interest, adding that the only thing that could break this jinx was sensitization.

Mr. Oglafa enjoined the ACTU members to look at the foreign trip processes of RMRDC, as protocol officers in some MDAs had been known to have inserted names of strangers into their staff list and sent to the embassies for visa processing. The Chairman of the ACTU, Dr. Gabriel Awoleyin expressed optimism that the effort being put in the fight against corruption in Nigeria would soon lead to a massive revolution resulting in a corruption-free Nigeria.

Visa Scam: Embassies should monitor their Officials – Nigerian Ambassador

By Folu Olamiti and Murna Ishaku

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Aminu Wali, has urged embassies in Nigeria to monitor activities of their officials to check the increase in visa frauds.

Mr. Wali gave the advice in Lagos at a one-day seminar on visa scams organised by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission, ICPC

He said that embassies should complement the work of his ministry and ICPC by monitoring activities of their officials and report unscrupulous visa agents through the appropriate channels to the authorities.

The seminar had the theme: "Instilling Integrity in Visa Procurement Process in Nigeria."

The minister was represented by the Director, Consular and Immigration Service in the ministry, Abdulazeez Dankano. He said Nigerians no longer enjoyed respect abroad due to the criminal activities of a few, including visa and other financial scams.

"It is unfortunate that in spite of laws and sundry control mechanisms put in place by government to curtail the activities of touts in embassies and our airports, the sharp

practice of obtaining visa illegally has persisted.

'It is in this regard that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs considers this seminar very appropriate and commends the ICPC for sensitizing the process which has led to the arrest and prosecution of the suspects and their collaborators.

"This seminar will further expose the dubious tricks of the visa procurement scam and

in visa scams between 2013 and June 2014.

He said five persons were arrested in June 2014 through Taiwanese Embassy, while 17 older cases were pending in various courts across the country.

"The Commission seized 372 passports from various travel agents and touts. We returned 65 passports to their owners, while others yet to collect theirs have been invited to do so," Mr. Udofia said.



Abdulazeez Dankano

Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Photo by Solomon Kogi

encourage responsible individuals and corporate bodies to avoid such an unwholesome malpractice," Mr. Wali said.

The Chairman of ICPC, Mr. Ekpo Nta, said the seminar was occasioned by the increase in complaints on visa fraud in the country.

Presenting the ICPC interventions in visa procurement process, Mr. Abbia Udofia, Deputy Director in ICPC, stated that 35 persons were arrested for alleged involvement

One of the seminar's participants, Aminu Agoha, President, National Association of Travel Agents of Nigeria, said that his association generated about \$1.1 billion dollars (about N176 billion) between 2013 and June 2014.

Mr. Agoha said the money was generated through sales of airline tickets, stressing that the airlines in return paid taxes to the Federal Government.

He, however, called on the embassies and the ICPC to always furnish the association with the names of agents arrested for visa fraud for appropriate sanctions.

About 126 persons participated in the seminar, including officials from the Nigeria Immigration Service, the Customs, military, embassies, and travel agents, among others.

Court of Appeal affirms ICPC Act 2000

The Court of Appeal sitting in Makurdi not only reaffirmed the validity of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 but upheld the seven years sentence of Mr. Ayuba Bakkat who was convicted for collecting bribes totalling N205,000 from applicants.

The court upheld that the citing of Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2003 in prosecuting cases “is null and void.”

Mr. Bakkat was sentenced to seven years imprisonment in 2012 by a Keffi High Court having collected bribes from Philip Adejoh and Obinna Ugwueze to help them secure employments into the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) for Ugwueze Amarachi and Andrew Elem respectively.

The case against Bakkat was brought to the Court by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) on a 3-count charge of corruption punishable under Section 10(9)(ii) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000.

The charge sheet read in part, “That you, Ayuba Bitrus Bakkat, of Kari-Kari Junction, behind Morgan Bge-Fwi, New Karu, Nasarawa State; between November and December 2009, in your house at Kari-Kari

Junction, received from one Ugwueze Obinna the sum of N70,000 to facilitate the employment of one Ugwueze Amarachi into the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps.

‘That you, Bakkat received from one Philip Adejoh the sum of N55,000 to facilitate his securing employment into the Nigeria Security and Civil

“I am not aware of any decisions of either the Supreme Court or this court declaring the Act 2000 invalid. This is the reason, I am at one with the submissions of the learned counsel for the respondent that, the Act of 2000 is subsisting and therefore the appellant was validly tried, convicted and sentenced under it”.

Defence Corps using one Jonathan Ebewie (now at large) and his acclaimed connections.

‘That you, Bakkat received from Philip Adejoh the sum of N80,000 to facilitate the employment of Andrew Elem into the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps”. But his Counsel, Osakwe Morris, had sought the quashing of the judgment by the appellate court on the ground that the lower court had no jurisdiction and that the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 upon which the accused was tried was null and void. In the lead judgment delivered by Justice Oyebisi F Omoleye, the appellant court cited several cases

where the ICPC law had been used to adjudicate cases, stressing that the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 remained valid.

“I am not aware of any decisions of either the Supreme Court or this court declaring the Act 2000 invalid. This is the reason, I am at one with the submissions of the learned counsel for the respondent that, the Act of 2000 is subsisting and therefore the appellant was validly tried, convicted and sentenced under it”.

Justice Omoleye said, “I therefore cannot comprehend in whatsoever way those two issues touch on the meat and substance of the instant appeal. I have no hesitation in discountenancing the said submissions. It is quite obvious that issue No. 1 does not avail for the appellant, I have resolved it against him.”

Resolving the case in favour of the ICPC, the trial justice said, “Upon a very careful scrutiny of the printed records, I cannot find any reasons for me to interfere with judgment of the trial Court. The castle of jurisdiction is the only structure built around the appeal by appellant and it, having been disabled, the appeal automatically crumbles leaving nothing. Issue No.2 is therefore resolved against the appellant. In the circumstances, I would certainly dismiss the appeal.”

Adopt preventive Method against Corruption - Gaji

By Ruth Awodi

Mr Barnabas Gaji, the head of Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Department of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), has called on civil servants to adopt the "preventive method" in the fight against corruption.

Mr. Barnabas represented by Mr. Justine Kuatsea of the department gave this charge during the "assessment tour" of the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) of the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and National Orientation, where he observed a few lapses in staff conduct which he said was as a result of an ineffective ACTU.

The Deputy Director of Training and Staff Welfare, Mr. Ben Osurhor who represented the permanent secretary, in his response agreed with Mr. Kuatsea that the ministry needed the intervention of the ICPC.

Osurhor also suggested the introduction of a code of conduct for staff of the ministry, adding that they were faced with funding challenges

and lack of office space.

He further suggested that accounts officials should also be part of the ACTU. He pointed out that the ACTU in the ministry seemed to be redundant because staff were afraid to expose cases of corruption in order not to lose their jobs

He urged the ACTU to work hand-in-hand with the labour unions existing in ministries as they had been effective whistle-blowers and had not allowed management to hinder their efforts.

Having observed with dismay that ACTU membership in the ministry was less than five, Mr. Kuatsea promised to raise it at the management meeting, assuring that new members would be appointed and inaugurated soon.

He encouraged staff not to see members of the ACTU as spies, but entreated them to report acts of corruption, as the fight against corruption was the responsibility of every Nigerian.

GRATIFICATION

FORGERY

CON

ABET

PHONY

DRILL

FAKE

INDUCE

LIE

BRIBERY

AID

PILFER

FRAUD

IMPERSONATE

STEAL

SCAM

BOGUS

DRILL

HOAX

LIMP

LEASE

LYMPH

PUZZLE

B	O	G	U	S	D	L	I
F	O	R	G	E	R	Y	M
I	T	A	L	L	I	M	P
B	S	T	E	A	L	P	E
R	L	I	E	C	L	H	R
I	E	F	R	A	U	D	S
B	A	I	F	A	K	E	O
E	S	C	A	M	C	O	N
R	E	A	B	E	T	W	A
Y	R	T	H	O	A	X	T
K	P	I	L	F	E	R	E
P	H	O	N	Y	A	I	D
Q	I	N	O	U	C	E	Z

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ICPC docks retired Deputy Director for Fraud, Mutilation of Records

reflecting approval of payment of the sum."

The alleged crime is punishable under Sections 15, 19 and 25 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000.

Counsel to the accused, Samuel Jimmy pleaded with the court to grant him bail on liberal terms on the grounds that he had shown good conduct since the commencement of the case in 2009.

Counsel representing ICPC, Kalu Ugbo did not oppose the bail application.

The trial Judge, Justice Oriji in his ruling granted the accused bail in the sum of N200, 000 and a surety who must be a civil servant on Grade Level Ten.

He then adjourned the case to 26th September and 9th October, 2014 for hearing.

ICPC's War Against Visa Touts

By Remi Oyeyemi

If your intention is to travel out of the country and you are seeking to get a visa to your destination by all means, if you are not careful, you may end up in jail. And if you are among those involved in touting to get visa for desperate prospective travellers, whether you work within or outside the embassies in Nigeria, if you do not stop right now, your days on the streets are numbered because jail is also waiting for you. It does not matter whether you are a "legal tout" or "illegal tout", jail is clearly written in the horizon for you. If you were at the one day seminar on visa acquisition organized by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) in Lagos on June 17, 2014, this year, this understanding would have been more crystal clear to you. The objective is not to prevent or discourage Nigerians from travelling

abroad; actually, the goal is to help simplify the process of visa application to make things easier for Nigerians by getting rid of the touts that make life miserable for innocent Nigerians who seek to engage in legitimate act of travelling.

To this end, the ICPC had put together this seminar which has its theme as "Instilling Integrity in Visa Procurement Process in Nigeria." Participants include ministerial department officials, representatives of consulates of different embassies and members of the public.

During the interactive session, the debate was very impressive and illuminating as it was interesting. Some of the participants used their experiences to explain the issues that were bothering them and pleaded with the ICPC to continue in his efforts to educate, inform and sensitize Nigerians about the dangers in engaging in visa scams. Some of the issues that emerged

during the interactive session included the following:

- a) Increasing the involvement of the various Student Union bodies across the country as part of the sensitization and education campaign
- b) Reciprocity of treatment of Nigerians on the visa issue.
- c) Control of "legal touts" embedded within the embassies to reduce visa scam.
- d) Inter – agency communications among all the security agencies to prevent fraud and scams.
- e) The need to improve the handling of travelling passports so that the security chips embedded in them would be protected.
- f) The need to expedite the judicial process while at the same time guaranteeing that the innocent is not unjustly punished and the guilty is not able to escape the long arms of the law.

Remi Oyeyemi lives in california but attended the Visa Acquisition seminar.

NEWS

COREN President laments Patronage of fake Engineers

By Hauwa Sani Garba

The President, Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), Engr. Kashim Ali has expressed worries over the continued patronage of quacks instead of professional engineers; describing it as a challenge to the sector. Speaking when he led a delegation of COREN members to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) at its headquarters recently, the President said that a

recent report from Oxfam had disclosed that \$63bn illicit funds went out of Africa every year.

Emphasizing that most of the outflow was from the engineering sector, Mr Ali said "When I got this report, I sat down and thought, in the whole of Africa which country even has up to \$1bn in terms of revenue a year? I can only count Angola, South Africa, Egypt and Nigeria. So if you now look at resources available to these countries, then a substantial amount of the money flows out of Nigeria. We also know that more than eighty per cent

of our resources are committed to infrastructure which are mainly engineering projects and that means that a substantial amount of that illicit outflow is from engineering projects".

He lamented the wrong perception that Nigerian engineers were not competent and the under-utilization of these engineers while promoting foreign ones which subsequently led to the outflow of funds from the continent.

The COREN President asserted that if engineering projects were

given to genuine engineers in the country, projects would be better delivered; adding that COREN was ready to work with the ICPC to fish out the bad eggs in the profession.

Responding, the Chairman of ICPC, Mr Ekpo Nta, said the ICPC needed such partnerships to help regulate members of professional bodies whenever issues of malpractice and corruption arose.

Mr. Nta noted that despite the fact that most Nigerians were educated, people still referred to the roadside mechanics as

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Petitioner commends ICPC

A petitioner who sent a complaint to the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) about fraudulent acts by the management of Imo State Polytechnic, Umuagwo, has expressed his profound gratitude to the ICPC for the thoroughness and efficiency with which it dealt with issues raised in the petition.

In his letter of appreciation addressed to the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Laurence Agulonu stated that "All I have been reading on the pages of some newspapers about the Commission's ineffectiveness and ineptitude has now been proved as false.

"I think all we, the citizens need to do is to give your Commission the true and correct information, not to fabricate facts, so that you can perform and deliver" he added.

7th J.k Gadzama Annual Public Lecture Series: Stakeholder calls for stronger judicial and political Regulations.

Guest speaker at the J.K Gadzama Annual Public Lecture, Mr. Alun Jones QC of the Great James Chambers, United Kingdom, has called for stronger judicial and political regulations against corruption and money laundering in Nigeria.

At the lecture which was 7th in its series, held in Abuja recently, Mr Jones observed that the lack of courage to implement and enforce laws had continued to hamper the fight against corruption and money laundering. He stated that the sophistication of money laundering and other related offences had been growing geometrically to an extent that normal national and international

policing could not keep pace.

He therefore challenged Nigeria and Nigerians to



Alun Jones QC of Great James Chambers United Kingdom, delivering his speech

Photo by Solomon Kogi

show more zeal in tracking its monies first before attacking the international community for non-remittance or delay in remittance.

Speaking earlier, the Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other

Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Mr Ekpo Nta who chaired the occasion said that it was

not enough to discover stolen monies and assets across borders, but timely recovery of such funds always posed a challenge.

He called on specialized inter-governmental bodies like the United Nations Office on Drugs [UNODC], international

initiatives like the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative [STAR] which is in partnership arrangement between the World Bank and UNODC, to help reduce or end safe havens for corrupt funds and laundering of proceeds of corruption.

Mr Nta promised the organizers to assist by bringing suggestions made at such lectures to international fora for further deliberations.

The convener of the lecture Joe Kyari Gadzama had said the choice of the topic was integral to the subject-matter as issues and problems of international enforcement of white collar crimes continued to remain seemingly insurmountable.

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Teenager Champions Crusade against Corruption in Bauchi

four Anglophone West African countries.

Speaking at the occasion, Zonal Head of ICPC Mr Olusegun Adigun, commended the youth for taking interest in the crusade as he assured of the readiness of the ICPC to partner with youth organizations in the state, in the fight against corruption.

The Coordinator of the American Corner, Bauchi, Mr. Nasir Umar also expressed appreciation to ICPC Zonal Head for the strong support given to the youth and enjoined the participants and other youths in the state to always partner with the anti-graft agencies in order to make Nigeria a better place.

ICPC helps 7 Widows recover deceased Husbands' Entitlements

By Folu Olamiti

Seven widows of some deceased members of staff of the Nigerian Railway Corporation have received payment of their husbands' long lingering pension entitlements after the intervention of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC).

Aside the widows, two other former staff of the corporation, Ogbe Valentine and Onwu Charles were also paid their entitlements.

The intervention by ICPC

followed a petition written by the Civil Liberties Organisation, Enugu Chapter, on behalf of the seven widows, against the Railway Corporation for non-payment of dependant pension entitlements and harassment from officers of the corporation.

The widows are: Mrs. Celestina Onyibor, Mrs. Roseline Obiekwe, Mrs. Comfort Okeke, Mrs. Cordelia Ifechelobi, Mrs. Rose Okoye, Mrs. Teresa Ani and Mrs. Roseline Agu.

The Civil Liberties Organisation, Enugu

Chapter had forwarded a petition dated 8th September, 2011 and signed by Michael Odiegwuto to ICPC alleging among other things that officers of the Railway Corporation had stolen the money meant for the pension of their late husbands. In the petition, the CLO further claimed that all of the widows were forcefully ejected from the official quarters allocated to their late husbands' pending the release of their pensions.

All efforts by CLO to persuade the management of the Eastern District of

Railway Corporation, Enugu to pay the widows had met a brick wall. Consequently, CLO sought the intervention of ICPC in compelling the corporation to pay the widows the entitlements due to their late husbands.

Shortly after ICPC waded into the matter, Mrs R. A. Oshunmakinde, Acting Director of Pensions of the Railway Corporation, in a letter with reference number MRC/PEN/E-PAY/Volume 2, released the sum of N2.2million as pension arrears of the seven widows and the two other former staff.

Transparency in Power Sector Critical to Government's Transformation Agenda – Godknows Igali

By Nelson Corper T.

The Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Power, Ambassador Godknows Igali has described the power sector as one of the critical focal point of the overall Transformation Agenda of President Goodluck Jonathan, adding that transparency in the sector would help in achieving steady increase in electricity supply.

Ambassador Igali made this declaration during the inauguration of a seven-man committee of Anti-corruption Monitoring and Transparency Unit (ACTU) at the ministry's headquarters in Abuja recently.

At the inauguration conducted by Mr. Justin Kuatea of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), the permanent

He added that the government had built brandnew National Integrated Power Project (NIPP) generating plants and had given them to the private sector to run while regulatory bodies were set up to ensure Nigerians were not short-changed by the distribution companies.

secretary described himself as a vanguard and supporter of the ACTU, adding that the establishment of the unit in the ministry would help in transforming the power sector.

His words: "Nigeria is the largest economy in Africa, technically without power. Power generation is very low. Almost everybody generates his own power for both household and industrial use, through power generating sets.

Companies serve meter turbines either by gas or oil.

"It should not be the case; rather it should be that the power sector is at the very top in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country. This is the realization that the power sector is not where it should be and implies that the power sector has not been the enabler of growth, development and agent of change it should be in nation-building," he lamented.

He added that the government had built brand new National Integrated Power Project (NIPP) generating plants and had given them to the private sector to run while regulatory bodies were set up to ensure Nigerians were not short-changed by the distribution companies.

"This the President did to ensure openness and transparency by the power distribution and transmission companies," he stated.

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Transparency in Power Sector Critical to Government's Transformation Agenda – Godknows Igali

Dr. Igali also promised to support Mr. President's doggedness to bring the power sector to standard by making sure that the highest level of transparency existed therein. He mentioned that the Rural Electrification Agency, Consumer Distribution Companies, Electric Management Services, Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) must all have open books and run their services with a sense of transparency and accountability. Dr. Igali added that he was the biggest vanguard of the ACTU with a great level of transparency and professionalism, by ensuring zero tolerance to all forms of corruption. During the inaugural lecture, Mr. Kuatesea tasked the newly-

reconstituted exco members to perform their duties with integrity and team spirit, using the ACTU Standing Order and the ICPC law as guides. Earlier, Mr. Femi Gold, also of the ICPC, had congratulated the new members and charged them to take public enlightenment as a vital key through which their duties could be delivered effectively to sensitize both the internal and external publics of the ministry. He encouraged the members to come up with good strategies for sensitization and publicity, targeting corruption - prone areas by organizing seminars and workshop.

ACTUs help check Corruption – ICPC Chairman

By Queeneth Onwuka

The Chairman of the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Mr Ekpo Nta has said that **A n t i - C o r r u p t i o n a n d T r a n s p a r e n c y M o n i t o r i n g U n i t (ACTU)** members in various Ministries, Departments and Agencies are better placed to effectively prevent the prevalence of corruption in such organisations. He stated this during the inauguration of the newly-appointed ACTU members of the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA), recently at the agency's headquarters in Abuja. Mr. Nta pointed out that the ACTU had the capacity of making the organization a model in corruption prevention in line with the mandate of the ICPC. Speaking through the Head of

Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Department (CMED), Mr. B.B Gaji, he urged the newly-inaugurated members of the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Monitoring Unit to be responsible in the exercise of their functions and to avoid any oppressive acts given the strategic role they would be expected to play. In his reaction, Mr Moses Baba who represented the Executive Secretary of the agency said the inauguration was the second in the history of the agency, as the tenure of the first set of members of the unit had expired. He added that "... As the saying goes, ignorance of the law is not an excuse," and therefore urged the new members to acquaint themselves with the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 and other regulatory guidelines that would assist them in the performance of the special duties assigned to them.

Continued from page 05

ICPC Visits Ministry of Transport ACTU

Transparency Unit (ACTU) and make them better-positioned and equipped to fight corruption in Ministries, Departments and Agencies recently visited the Federal Ministry of Transport ACTU office. Mr. Justin Kuatesea who spoke on behalf of the head of CMED, Mr. Barnabas B. Gaji, said the reason for the visit was to meet with the management of the Federal Ministry of Transport in order to explore avenues of fostering a good working relationship between it and the ACTU. Chairman of ACTU, Federal Ministry of Transport, Mr. Tanimu Dalhatu, in his response said they had been faced with the same challenge over the years, where management saw them as foes rather than partners in progress. He also lamented the slicing down of their budget from last year's N3.8m to N3.5m which he said would adversely affect the action plan for the year, 2014. Another challenge he identified was that ACTU which used to be directly under the permanent secretary had been moved to the office of the director of special duties, meaning that whatever they would want to do would have to pass through him to the permanent secretary which sometimes resulted in needless delays.

On acceptance, the newly-appointed Chairman of the Unit, Mr. Lanre Oladele, said the enactment of the law which set up the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission, was particularly commendable, as it brought with it, a more robust initiative to the fight corruption, while also providing enforcement, prevention and education measures for sustainable results. He assured the gathering that the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) management would continue to take advantage of such institutional frameworks in its quest to improve and sustain its anti-corruption activities, thereby contributing to the efforts at ensuring that Nigeria was free from all forms of corruption and corrupt practices.

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 State Office: 6 Mayo Ini street Jimeta Yola, Adamawa State Phone: 08036003741	(New Otukpo Road) Along J.S. Tarka, Makurdi, Benue 08037044584	Kaduna State Office: No. 7 Wurno Road Unguan Dosa Kaduna Phone: 062-212587	Osun State Office: Olu Alabi way GRA, Oke-fia, Osogbo Osun State Phone: 08137026702
Akwa-Ibom State Office: No 55 D Line Ewet Housing Estate Uyo, Akwa-Ibom State Phone: 085-660631, 08023263251	Edo State Office: 81, Boundary Road Benin City Edo State 08023221385	Kano State Office: No 417, Shehu Kazaure Road Off Kwanar Maggi Hototo GRA Kano State 064-913459	Oyo State Office: No. 19B University Crescent Old Bodija Estate Ibadan, Oyo State 02-8736166, 08023364100
Bauchi State Office: Plot 10946, Yaya Abubakar Link Off Federal Secretariat Road BRC Along Gombe Road, Bauchi 077-546860, 08057119122	Enugu State Office: No 55 Ezeilo Street Independence Layout Enugu Phone: 08033361292	Kogi State Office: Behind State Secretariat, Lokoja Kogi State Phone: 08059584127	Sokoto State Office: No 18 Sama Road Giwah Layout, Sokoto State 08036421831
Benue State Office: Ochagwu Lawani Street Off New Bridge Road	Imo State Office: Plot 100, Ngozi Ajealu Street Off Nkwere Street Works Layout Owerri, Imo State Phone: 08023220835	Lagos State Office: 10, Okotie Eboh Street SW Ikoyi, Lagos 01-2673150, 08064187366	Rivers State Office: No 4 Chief A.K Horsefall Street (Former Abana St.) off William Jumbo Drive Old GRA, Port Harcourt 08033128901

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

JULY - AUGUST, 2014

CHARGE NO.	PARTIES	COURT	STATE	STATUS	DATE
HAB/ICPC/1C/2013	FRN VS DR. PAUL AJAH & ANOR	H/C ABAKALIKI	EBONYI STATE	FOR DEFINATE HEARING	1/07/2014
HOS/10C/2013	FRN VS CHIEF WOLEOLA RUFUS OJO	H/C ILE-IFE	OSUN STATE	FOR ARGUMENT ON MOTION ON NOTICE	1/07/2014
ID/561C/2014	FRN VS VICTOR ONYINECHUKWU AKAFZE	H/C IKEJA	LAGOS STATE	FOR ARRAIGNMENT	2/7/2014
A/ICPC/1C/2013	FRN VS JERRY ONYEBUENYI	H/C ASABA	DELTA STATE	FOR HEARING	2/7/2014
HC/53C/2006	FRN VS MR. EMMANUEL N. IBOR	H/C CALABAR	C/RIVER STATE	FOR HEARING	2-3/7/2014
AK/1C/2012	FRN VS BODE OLAWOYE & ANOR	H/C AKURE	ONDO STATE	FOR COMMENCEMENT OF DEFENCE	2-3/07/2014
A/1C/2013	FRN VS DR. OKECHUKWU ODUNZE & 7, ORS	H/C AWKA	ANAMBRA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	3/7/2014
HU/31C/2011	FRN VS EMMANUEL EBE	H/UYO	A/IBOM STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	3/07/2014
ZMS/GS/2C/2010	FRN VS DR. BELLO MOH'D SHALLAH & ANOR	H/C GUSAU	ZAMFARA STATE	FOR ADOPTION OF FINAL WRITTEN ADDRESSES	7/07/2014
CA/M/100C/2011	FRN VS ABDULHAMEED YAKUBU KWARRA	C/A MAKURDI	BENUE STATE	FOR HEARING	7/07/2014
CR/135/2014	FRN VS ABEL FRIDAY	FCT - HC	ABUJA	FOR LEAVE	7/7/2014
B/ICPC/3C/2013	FRN VS SAMMED GLOBAL SERVICE	H/C BENIN	EDO STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	7-11/07/2014
I/1C/ICPC/2007	FRN VS DR. HENRY ALOH & ORS	H/C ABAKALIKI	EBONYI STATE	FOR HEARING	7-8/07/2014
CA/J/63C/2011	FRN VS ALKALI IMAM	CA JOS	PLATEAU STATE	FOR HEARING ON APPELLANT'S MOTION	8/7/2014
BA/49C/2013	FRN VS AGBOLADE IBIKUNLE & ORS	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	8-9/07/2014
NSHC/MIN/ICPC/1C/2008	FRN VS IBRAHIM SWASU SHABAFU	H/C MINNA	NIGER STATE	FOR COMMENCEMENT OF HEARING (DE-NOVO)	8-9/07/2014

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

JULY - AUGUST, 2014

CHARGE NO.	PARTIES	COURT	STATE	STATUS	DATE
ID/416C/2013	FRN VS OKWARA CHIDERA OSCAR & ANOR	H/C IKEJA	LAGOS STATE	FOR HEARING ON NO CASE SUBMISSION	9/07/2014
FHC/K/CR/118/2014	FRN VS MOHAMMED SALISU MUSA	FHC KANO	KANO STATE	FOR ARRAIGNMENT	9/07/2014
I/3C/ICPC/2013	FRN VS BENJAMIN A. OGUNBODEDE & ORS	H/C IYA-GANGU IBADAN	OYO STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	9/07/2014
BA/28C/2008	FRN VS SULE MAMUDA & 5, ORS	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	9-10/07/2014
CR/86/2010	FRN VS ANTHONY UDOMA	FCT – HC	ABUJA	FOR HEARING	9-10/7/2014
NSHC/ICPC/1C/2010	FRN VS SULE MOHAMMED BARAU	H/C MINNA	NIGER STATE	FOR MENTION (DE-NOVO)	10/07/2014
A/1C/20013	FRN VS OKECHUKWU ODUNZE & ORS	H/C AWKA	ANAMBRA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	12/07/2014
HC/36C/2014	FRN VS EGRE MICHAEL	H/C CALABAR	C/RIVER STATE	FOR ARRAIGNMENT	14/7/2014
BA/22C/2010	FRN VS AHMED MOH'D ZUBO & ANOR	H/C BAUCHI	BAUCHI STATE	FOR COMMENCEMENT OF HEARING (DENOVO)	14/07/2014
NSHC/ICPC/1C/2014	FRN VS ABDULHAKEEM LAWAL	H/C MINNA	NIGER STATE	FOR LEAVE	14/07/2014
LCD/17C/2008	FRN VS JOHN FAGBEMI & 5, ORS	H/C AGBOSERE	LAGOS STATE	FOR JUDGEMENT	14/7/2014
I/3C/ICPC/2007	FRN VS TAJUDEEN OLALERE	H/C IBADAN	OYO STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	14/07/2007
B/ICPC/2C/2013	FRN VS HON. ELINOSA I. OGBEIMI	H/C BENIN	EDO STATE	FOR COMMENCEMENT OF HEARING	16/7/2014
KDH/ICPC/1C/2013	FRN VS AHMED IBRAHIM MUSA & ANOR	H/C KADUNA	KADUNA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	16/07/2014
CR/169/2013	FRN VS DAVID IORNEM	FCT – H/C	ABUJA	FOR HEARING	17/7/2014
HAB/ICPC/1C/2013	FRN VS DR. PAUL AJAH & ANOR	H/C ABAKALIKI	EBONYI STATE	FOR HEARING	17-18/07/2014
CR/96/2010	FRN VS UMAR ALIYU	FCT – H/C	ABUJA	FOR HEARING	21/7/2014
CR/101/2013	FRN VS ISHOLA BINTU	FCT – H/C	ABUJA	FOR ARRAIGNMENT	22/7/2014
CR/103/2006	FRN VS WARTHE AYUBA	FCT – H/C	ABUJA	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	22/7/2014
HU/78C/2010	FRN VS GODDY KANU K. & ANOR	H/C UMUAHIA	ABIA STATE	FOR ADOPTION OF FINAL ADDRESSES	23/7/2014
A/ICPC/3C/2012	FRN VS AKOMAH ALBERT OTIMEYIN & ORS	H/C WARRI	DELTA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	23/07/2014
KDH/KAD/3C/2010	FRN VS AUGUSTINE CHUKWUEMEKA	H/C KADUNA	KADUNA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF HEARING	23-24/07/2014
HU/36C/2013	FRN VS EZE CHIMA BOB UBIARU & ANOR	H/C UMUAHIA	ABIA STATE	FOR HEARING	24/07/2014
CR/53C/2012	FRN VS ENGR VICTOR IGBOANUGO	FCT – HC	ABUJA	FOR HEARING OF MOTION	24/7/2014
A/86C/2008	FRN VS SUNNY OBI	H/C AWKA	ANAMBRA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	24/07/2014
CR/85/2007	FRN VS CHIEF O. OGUNLEYE	FCT – H/C	ABUJA	FOR DEFENCE	29/7/2014
F/13C/2009	FRN VS ALH. YUSUF SADIQ & ORS	H/C YOLA	ADAMAWA STATE	FOR CONTINUATION OF DEFENCE	1/08/2014
CR/1/2003	FRN VS ALI BALOGUN	FCT – HC	ABUJA	FOR JUDGEMENT	1/8/2014
PLD/23C/2007	FRN VS SGT. PETER ABBAH	H/C JOS	PLATEAU STATE	FOR FINAL ADDRESS	5/8/2014

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