



AFRICA NETWORK FOR ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

(Non-governmental Organisation)

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22nd February, 2016.

Mrs. Kemi Adeosun,
Honourable Minister,
Federal Ministry of Finance,
Ahmadu Bello Way, Central Business District,
PMB 14, Abuja.

Dear Madam,

CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT ON ABACHA LOOT RECOVERY: REQUEST FOR A COURTESY VISIT

We bring you warm greetings from the Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ), a Non-Governmental Organisation based in Benin City, Edo State, with advocacy office in Central Business District, Abuja. ANEEJ as a leading Civil Society Organisation is working on extractives, human rights, debts/ structural adjustments as well as environmental issues.

We wish to congratulate you on your recent appointment as Honourable Minister of Finance and we believe that your appointment by President Muhammadu Buhari was premised on your track record as a seasoned Financial expert with unwavering commitment to probity, transparency and accountability and these positive attributes, you have brought to bear in the discharge of your duty as Finance Minister of our great nation.

Since you assumed office, we have made close observations of some administrative and technical measures you have introduced in the Federal Ministry of Finance such as the launch of the country's first Efficiency Unit as a first step in cutting government waste and helping boost the nation's ailing economy. This is quite innovative and commendable.

We agree with you that "no amount of fiscal innovation, financial re-engineering or other well-intentioned economic policy will deliver the desired results for as long as the manner in which government money is expended is not carefully controlled," and you have our total support and we are willing to complement your efforts as Civil Society Organisation with our work in diverse ways, one of which is our campaign for repatriation of Nigeria's looted assets which interestingly, is a cardinal objective of the Muhammadu Buhari administration.

In 2003/2004, working with some of our partners in Switzerland, we led Civil Society Organisation under the Nigeria Network of Stolen Assets (NNSA) to monitor the repatriation and utilization of some \$500million stashed in that country by the Late General Sani Abacha under the World Bank led Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability Review mechanism. The Nigeria Public Expenditure Management and Financial Accountability Review (PEMFAR) was initiated by the World Bank to execute reform in the budget spending of the Nigerian Government by analyzing the use of the repatriated Abacha Loot in implementing the National

Economic Empowerment Development Strategy (NEEDS) in support of Millennium Development Goals' (MDG) priorities of education, health, and basic infrastructure (power, roads, and water) for poverty eradication. This analysis took the form of a physical inspection of a randomly selected representation of projects in these priority sectors listed by the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) as having incorporated funds from the recovered Abacha Loot.

Again, ANEEJ has been following developments on the planned repatriation of some \$380million from Switzerland and has been gathering intelligence from our Swiss counterparts. ANEEJ on 17th of February, 2016 met with Swiss delegation on asset recovery at the Switzerland Embassy in Abuja and had very useful discussions going forward. It is our belief that, as CSOs, working with our government on the repatriation and utilisation of looted assets will be win-win for generality of our people.

It is against this backdrop that we humbly request to meet with you on CSOs engagement with government on the planned repatriation and utilisation of the \$380million Abacha loot. We plan to lead five other NGOs who are members of the NNSA on this visit which will be at no cost to your ministry.

The purpose of this letter, therefore, is also to seek your kind approval for a courtesy visit by the Management of ANEEJ comprising two Senior Management Staff to be led by our Executive Director and Chief Executives of five other NGOs who are members of the NNSA. We propose **Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 10.00am or any date and time convenient for you.**

We look forward to a positive feedback.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'David Ugolor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rev. David Ugolor
Executive Director