



Environmental Centre for Oil Spills and Gas Flaring (NACGOND)

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NACGOND CONDEMNS FINANCIAL RECKLESSNESS IN THE NIGER DELTA DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NDDC)

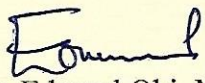
The National Coalition on Gas Flaring and Oil Spills in the Niger Delta (NACGOND) is outraged over recent revelations of humongous financial recklessness in the NDDC, involving several individuals across the country. We are equally outraged by the public display of arrogance by the management of the commission, the supervisory ministry and the oversight committees of the National Assembly. This public show of shame demonstrates deliberate insensitivity to the plight of the people. Once again, the longsuffering people of the region have been short-changed by those saddled with the responsibility of improving their lot.

The NDDC was established in 2000 by an Act of parliament as an intervention agency to primarily coordinate sustainable development of the Niger Delta region. Despite the institutional intervention, the region has further receded to mass poverty, infrastructural decay, environmental degradation and hopelessness. In the same vein, the appalling silence of leaders of the region is upsetting. This is a complete departure from the situation years ago when our leaders and our youths were mobilised locally and internationally to demand for justice, which resulted in the creation of the NDDC.

In the light of the above,

1. We call on the presidency to expedite the forensic audit of the NDDC and make public the report.
2. For indicted persons and organisations should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.
3. For the NDDC to place communities at the centre of its operations and in particular, recognise their rights to free prior informed consent (FPIC) on all NDDC projects.
4. For the Niger Delta people to wake up from their current complacency and actively demand for change.

Signed:

 27th July, 2020

Fr. Edward Obi, MSP

National Coordinator of NACGOND.

Email: info@nacgond.org edyobi@gmail.com

Phone: 08132795461

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17 Ndashi Street D Line

Port-Harcourt

admin@nacgond.org

www.nacgond.org

NACGOND is a coalition of Civil Society Organisations, whose mandate is to promote good governance, environmental justice, natural resource sustainability and secure livelihoods.

The members are:

Stakeholder Democracy Network- SDN; Centre for Environment, Human Rights and Development- CEHRD; Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People- MOSOP; Gas Alert for Sustainable Initiative- GASIN; Gender and Development Action-GADA; Centre for Conflict and Gender Studies- CCGS; Foundation for the Conservation of the Earth-FOCONE; Pro-Natura International- PNI; Kebetkache Women Development and Resource Centre- KEBETKACHE; Youth Awareness Project-YAP; Care and Development Centre-CADEC; Bayelsa NGO Forum-BANGOF; Macjim Foundation; Leadership Initiative for Transformation and Empowerment-Lite-Africa; Institute for Niger Delta Studies- INDS; Foundation for Environmental Rights and Development- FENRAD; Green Concern for Development-GREENCODE; Peace Point Development Foundation-PPDF; African Centre for Leadership, Strategy and Development-Centre-LSD; Poverty Alleviation for the Poor Initiative- PAFPI; Heart of Sustainable Development Initiative- HSDI; Niger Delta Environment and Relief Foundation (NIDEREF).

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