



# Coalition Against Corrupt Leaders (CACOL)

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*Name, Nail, Shame and Shun Corrupt Leaders Anywhere, Everywhere*

## **CONCEPT NOTE ON POPULAR CAMPAIGN AGAINST CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA (PoCACoN)**

### **Introduction:**

The **Coalition Against Corrupt Leaders (CACOL)** is an aggregate of human rights, community based, and civil society organisations with anti-corruption agenda across Nigeria. CACOL sets for itself the task of using any available means to cause relevant authorities to probe and bring to book all corrupt leaders both in public and private institutions. The decision to embark on the journey was taken in view of the need to confront headlong, once and for all, the monster that is ravaging all facets of our national life in Nigeria - Corruption. We decided to do this on behalf of millions of hapless Nigerians who have by a choice that is not theirs, fallen or are potential victims of corrupt leaders. This monster torments ordinary people of Nigeria in all areas of their endeavour. We believe we have to confront it with a view to defeating it because it has to be done, not by ghosts or citizens of other nations but by Nigerians who have pride in themselves to be full-blooded Nigerians.

**Rationale:** Causes of all socio-economic and political problems plaguing Nigeria today have been traced to endemic corruption by and among leadership of various socio-political institutions in Nigeria and their collaborators elsewhere. Corruption as evidenced in all dishonest behaviours like stealing, oppression, favouritism, nepotism, lying, embezzlement, misappropriation, bribery, cheating, fraud etc has made an average Nigerian poorer while an average leader unjustifiably wealthier than the capacity of their legitimate earnings.

**Access** to all basic necessities - food, water, health care, road, education etc not to talk of good things of life - housing, power, energy, transportation etc are elusive to an average Nigerian. Living in Nigeria has become a nightmare owing to lack of security to lives and property occasioned by the large army of unemployed youths that turn to crimes for want of what to eat. While our leaders appropriate billions of naira to themselves as salaries, wages and all sorts of allowance, including renovating a three-year old building with N628 million while the only building standing in the culprit's former primary school has no roof; they sell our common heritage to themselves and cronies at ridiculously low rates; destroy public institutions to create market advantage for their private and privatized ones and accentuate fraud with fraudulent judicial process, people of Nigeria die in droves of preventable ailments like road accidents, malaria and childbirth! Hence we hold the belief that rather than engaging authorities on the effect of a vice we should tackle the vice itself from its roots

The fight against corruption is a *hydra headed* one that cannot be confronted from all fronts at the same time. It can only, like learning proceed from known to unknown. The great is what is known while the little is relatively unknown owing to their level of spread and impact. Hence our fight shall take the principle of *'one step at a time'* starting from the presidency to the councillorship; from Chief Executive Officers to cleaners, in both public and private settings.

**Engagement:** Our task is simple - to use all legal and civilized means to campaign against known corrupt leaders and pressure relevant authorities to prosecute them. Our activities will include but not limited to:

- **petitions** - petitions against suspected and proven corrupt leaders would be sent to relevant state agency to take all appropriate actions under the laws of the land to prosecute them;
- **mass letter writing** - would be encouraged among Nigerians to pressure public and private institutions, as well as relevant individuals to take specific actions against known corrupt leaders;
- **processions** - would be held at regular intervals, especially when submitting petitions and their follow-up activities;
- **research** - would be carried out on unanswered questions bothering on corruption to establish theoretical bases for activities and advice relevant authorities appropriately on ways and means of tackling the monster;
- **study** - would be carried out on best practices, workability of intended actions and effectiveness of action taken on the subject matter;
- **investigations** - of reported cases of corruption with a view to assisting anti graft agencies with facts and figures to prosecute suspected culprits;
- **litigations** - court and other judicial actions would be taken against any anti graft agency that is reluctant or refuses to perform its lawful duties or overzealous in performing its functions;
- **public rallies** - spiced with graffiti, leafleteering, bill posting etc would be held at intervals to raise the consciousness of the Nigerian populace on the need and how to make their communities uncomfortable for corrupt leaders to return to. They will be encouraged not

### **The PoCACoN**

CACOL started its activities since August 2007 when it held its inaugural meeting with about thirty different civil society who had earlier indicated their intention to be part of the initiative. Since then CACOL has carried out the following major campaign activities asking for the probe and, if found culpable, prosecution of the immediate past president, General Olusegun Obasanjo and his regime for corruption:

- Inaugural Press Conference - September 3, 2007
- Procession to submit a petition to EFCC - November 14, 2007
- Procession to submit a petition to ICPC - December 12, 2007
- Press Briefing on Our Journey so Far - January 3, 2008
- Press Conference on EFCC & ICPC - February 14, 2008
- Picketing of EFCC offices in Lagos - March 12, 2008
- Procession to ICPC offices & National Assembly in Abuja - April 16, 2008

All these activities contributed to the understanding of the issues involved in the need for and popular agitation for the probe of every sector of the economy under that regime by a cross section of the Nigerian populace. Most of these activities are carried out with funds from membership contributions and donations from friends of the Coalition. Transportation of the 56-man Lagos contingent to and from the last procession in Abuja was sponsored by the Coalitions for Change (C4C) through the Movement Against Corruption (MAC) that CACOL forms an integral part of.

### **Request From AAIN**

The present effort is geared towards accessing resources needed to continue some of our minimum regular activities for the next two quarters at an average of one activity per month. The components of it include printing of leaflets, holding of rallies and publicity for the activities in the mass media.

### **Budget**

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• Leaflets @ N10, 000 x 6 months	60, 000
• Rallies/processions @ N30, 000 x 6 months	180, 000
• Media mobilization @ N10, 000 x 6 months	60, 000
• Press Conferences @ N35, 000 x 3	105, 000
<b>Total</b>	<b><u><u>N405, 000</u></u></b>

Total amount being requested is four hundred and five thousand naira only

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