

AUGUST 15, 2012

One Hundred and Fifty Four Civil Society Organizations and Individuals Worried about Reverend David Ugolor.

One hundred and fifty-four (154) civil society organizations and individuals drawn from the six geo-political zones of the country have expressed their concerns over the continued detention of Reverend David Ugolor who was arrested on the 27th of July 2012 in Benin City in connection with the murder of Comrade Oyerinde, a Principal Secretary to the Edo State Governor.

Latest reports from Benin City had it that as at 3.47pm Nigerian time on Sunday 12th August, Ugolor was transported in a chartered bus belonging to Uyo Motors from the Force Headquarter in Benin City and headed for Abuja and is now being held at the Garki Police Divisional Headquarter, Abuja.

The Organizations and individuals are concerned that eighteen (18) days after his arrest Ugolor is yet to be charged to court according to constitutional provisions, a development which is certainly against his fundamental human rights. We caution, therefore, against the continued detention of Ugolor and ask that the Nigerian Police and all concerned authorities take the appropriate actions by either charging Ugolor to court now or release him without further unnecessary delays.

As civil society organizations and individuals we are interested in finding the true killers of Comrade Oyerinde and call on the State's security apparatus to expedite action in finding the very true killers of Oyerinde.

Oyebisi Babatunde Oluseyi, Executive Director, Nigeria Network of NGOs (NNNGO) notes: "The Nigerian Police must ensure that their investigations into the murder case of Comrade Oyerinde is detailed and professional without any form of witch-hunt and side taking".

The organizations and individuals call on governments at all levels in Nigeria to protect the space for those advancing progressive, liberal ideas by strengthening the civil society space. The State and dominant political groups should work with civil society organizations in ensuring that the state of insecurity in Nigeria is properly addressed while cautioning against labeling activists and civil society leaders wrongly.

Statement signed by

1. Absmat & Ayoakins Foundation for Youth Programme
2. Access to Life/Movement for African Independence and Development (MAID)
3. Action in Distress (AID) Foundation
4. Adenoble Nigeria Limited
5. ADURAGBEMI MULTIPURPOSE COOPERATIVE UNION
6. Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice
7. Africa Safe Water Foundation

8. African Child Social Empowerment Centre (ACSEC)
9. African Women Empowerment Guild
10. Alpha O Centre
11. Anti-Corruption and good governance Research policy Centre
12. ANWF
13. Asabe Shehu Yar'Adua Foundation (ASYARF)
14. Association for Women Improvement in the South-South, AWISS
15. Bauchi Community Oriented Development Initiative
16. Building Better Africa Foundation'
17. Building Bridges
18. CAFSO-WRAG for Development
19. Campaign Against Female Genital Mutilation
20. Campaign2015+ International
21. Centre for Health Works, Development and Research (CHEDRES)
22. Centre for Integrated Development Initiatives
23. Centre for Peace Projects & Development.
24. Centre for Popular Participation and Local Initiatives
25. Centre for Research and Preventive Health Care
26. Centre for Social Justice
27. Centre LSD
28. Children Project
29. Children's Basic Fundamental Rights Foundation (CBFRF)
30. Christian Women Fellowship International
31. Christian Youth Association of Nigeria
32. Christian Youth Association of Nigeria
33. Civil Society Coalition on Migration and Development (CISCOM-D)
34. Coalition of Eastern Human Rights and Pro-democracy Activists (CEHRAPA)
35. Committee for the Defense of Human Rights (CDHR)
36. Community Empowerment for Peace and Health Initiative (CEPI)
37. Community Health and Development Initiative
38. Computer Educational Support Initiative
39. Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations
40. Cradle of Black civilization Initiative
41. Curefo Reading Foundation
42. Dayo Olugboye
43. Defence for Children International Nigeria
44. Democratic Action Group (DAG)
45. Desirable-Impact
46. Development and Leadership Institute (DLI)
47. Development Exchange Centre
48. Development Information Network DevNet
49. Divine Foundation for Disabled Persons
50. Elohim Foundation
51. Fair Life Africa Foundation
52. Fesh Foundation
53. Find Justice Nigeria

54. Focus Health and Empowerment Initiative
55. Gender Development Education Konsult
56. Gladstar Gifted and Talented Educational Centre
57. Global Alert for Defense of Youth and the Less Privileged (GADYLP)
58. Global Fund for Women Grantees Network Nigeria (GFWGNN)
59. Global Youth Development Center (GYDC)
60. Good Citizen Community Care International Centre
61. Grassroots Advocacy Centre for Economic Development (GRACED)
62. Green Concern for Development
63. Heal Nigeria Initiative
64. Hope Alert Foundation
65. Hope for Life Initiative
66. Human Right Information Network
67. Human Rights Defenders Network
68. Ilaje National Alliance Movement (INAMO)
69. Indomitable Youth organisation
70. Initiative for social Development and Human Dignity In Nigeria
71. Institute for Dispute Resolution
72. International Association of Criminal Justice Practitioners (IACJP)
73. International Foundation for African Children
74. Isoko Environmental Watch Group
75. JIMENO FOUNDATION
76. Joint Awareness and Mobilization Initiative
77. Joint Awareness and Mobilization Initiative
78. Josemaria Child Right Action Network
79. Justice, Development and Peace Commission, Ijebu-Ode Catholic Diocese
80. Keeping It Real Foundation
81. Koyenum Immalah Foundation
82. KUTH Foundation
83. Labour, Health and Human Rights Development Centre
84. Lagos State Civil Society Partnership
85. Leadershipgold Foundation
86. Life Enhancement Organisation
87. Local Initiative for Environmental Sustainability (LIFES)
88. Lolly Sofi Foundation
89. Map Media Initiative for Development
90. Maria Ebun Foundation
91. Marian Hope Empowerment Initiative
92. Media Rights Agenda
93. Movement against Corruption
94. Mr. Chukwuemeka Ngene
95. MULTIVIEW ADVOCACY NETWORK-MANET
96. National Anti-corruption Volunteer Corps
97. NGO Coalition for Environment (NGOCE), Calabar Nigeria
98. Niger Delta Women's movement for Peace and Development
99. Nigeria Network of NGOs

100. Nigeria Youth Link
101. No Woman No Nation Organization Of Nigeria
102. Noble Missions for Change Initiative (NMI)
103. Ogoni Solidarity Forum, Nigeria
104. Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness
105. Operation Rescue
106. P.A.G.E Initiative
107. Pan African Strategic and Policy Research Group (PANAFSTRAG))
108. Pan African Vision for the Environment (PAVE)
109. Pan-African Development Education and Advocacy Programme, PADEAP
110. Participatory development Consult
111. Peaceful Society Foundation
112. Peca Point Action
113. PEER Group Initiative
114. Poverty Alleviation for the Poor Initiative
115. Private Investors Club
116. Publish What You Pay, Nigeria
117. Qomen in Needs Initiative
118. Rahama Women Development Program
119. Rainbow Synergies
120. Rainbow Synergies
121. Reconciliation Trainers Africa (RETA)
122. Reference Point International
123. Riverine Communities Health Org
124. Rural Integrated Development Initiative (RIDI)
125. Save Nigeria Group/Lawyers of Conscience/Benedict Ezeagu
126. Serendipity Healthcare Foundation
127. Skyhigh International
128. Smile for the Needy Initiatives
129. Society for Ethics In Nigeria
130. Society for the Empowerment of Young Persons
131. Society for Water and Sanitation
132. Sonny Onyegbula
133. St. Igharo Ventures
134. Steps to Life...Nigeria
135. SWAPHEP
136. Tendrils of Hope
137. Twins Initiative Network
138. Upez African Humanitarian Development Project's (UAHDP) NGO.
139. Voice of Niger Delta Women
140. Wazobia Democratic Concern (WDC)
141. Widows Development Organisation
142. Women and Children with Disability Initiative
143. Women and Youth Environment Project
144. Women Arise for Change Initiative
145. Women Entrepreneurs Association of Nigeria (WEAN)

146. Women Youths and Children Advancement Program
147. Women's Optimum Development Foundation - WODEF
148. World Youth League International
149. www.newsacross.com
150. YAHOrg
151. Youth and Adolescent Health Initiatives and Counseling
152. Youth Initiative for Sustainable Development
153. Youth Mandate Forum
154. Zero Corruption Coalition