

From: Chris Ochonu <MAILER-DAEMON>
Sent: Tuesday, 23 July 2024 19:30
To: Gwueke Ajaifia; Dundas Sasi
Cc: Obiageli Onuorah
Subject: Special Committee on Theft/ Losses: Invitation to a 2 Day Public / Investigative Hearing
Attachments: scan special committee on theft losses invitation to the 2 day public investigative hearing.pdf

Good Evening Sir,
Please I have been directed to forward the attached letter to you.
Its in respect of an invitation to a public hearing on Oil theft/ Losses.
Kindly appreciate Sir.
Best Regards.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON OIL THEFT/LOSSES- INVITATION TO A 2-DAY PUBLIC/INVESTIGATIVE HEARING

You may recall that The House of Representatives on 17th October, 2023 constituted a Special Committee on Oil Theft/Losses with the core mandate to:

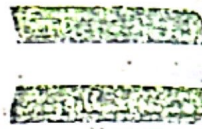
1. Investigate all cases of oil theft and losses in the oil and gas sector in Nigeria, focusing on the activities of all actors including criminal groups, militia groups, the local community, company employees and security agencies with a view to bringing these groups to justice.
2. Investigate all expenses incurred by Government Agencies for the Purpose of Combating Grade Oil Theft and Fuel Losses pursuant to section 22, 23 and 24 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).

On 17th October, 2023, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. Abba PM 2 inaugurated the Special Committee on Oil Theft/Losses mandating it to carry out a comprehensive investigation on the activities of all actors and ensure that this exercise is conclusive, efficient and effective.

In light of the above, the Committee is inviting you to a 2-day Public/Investigative Hearing Meeting as follows:

Friday 26th July 2024

10:00 AM
Assembly Chamber, 7th Floor



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON OIL THEFT/LOSSES

NASS/HR.10/SCOT/12/22

The Chairman
NEITI Companies Forum
NEITI's Office, Abuja

16th July, 2024

Attention: All Members All Members (Oil and Gas Sector)

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON OIL THEFT/LOSSES: INVITATION TO A 2-DAY PUBLIC/INVESTIGATIVE HEARING

You may recall that The House of Representatives on Wednesday, 30th October, 2023 constituted the Special Committee on Oil Theft/Losses with the core mandate to;

- i. investigate all dimensions of oil theft and losses in the oil and gas sector in Nigeria, focusing on the actions of all actors, including criminal gangs, militia groups, the local populace, company employees and security agencies with a view to bringing those complicit to justice.
- ii. investigate all expenses incurred by Government Agencies for the Purpose of Combating Crude Oil Theft and Related Matters pursuant to section 80, 88 and 89 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).

Consequently, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Tajudeen Abbas Ph.D inaugurated the Special Committee on November, 22nd 2023 mandating it to carry out a comprehensive investigation on the subject matter and ensure that this menace is conclusively addressed

In light of the above, the Committee is inviting you to a 2-day Public/Investigative Hearing Meeting as follows:

Date: Thursday, 25th - Friday 26th July 2024-

Venue: Venue: Conference Hall 028, House of Representatives, National Assembly Complex, Abuja

National Assembly Complex, Abuja, FCT Nigeria

Time: 10:00am

Your invitation to the Public Hearing is based on our understanding of the role your organisation plays in the oil and gas sector in Nigeria

The Speaker of the House of Representatives is expected to declare the Public Hearing Open on Thursday 25th July 2024. You are therefore requested to be in attendance at the Hearing Meeting in person as representation by proxy will not be accepted.

Additionally, we request you to provide the Committee with information as specified in the attached questionnaire. The written submission in 35 hard copies and 3 soft copies are to reach the Committees Secretariat on or before Friday, 19th July 2024. *We enjoin you to kindly treat this request with utmost importance and the urgency it deserves.*

You may wish to contact the Clerk to the Committee, Makwe Eugene Eric Ph.D. (08069070497) for any inquiry.

While we look forward to your cooperation and collaboration in carrying out this critical national assignment, please accept with kind regards, the compliment of the esteemed respect of the Rt. Hon Speaker of the House of Representatives and that of the Special Committee.



Hon. Alhassan Ado Doguwa, OON
Chairman

NEITI COMPANY FORUM

1. Your understanding of the factors, immediate and remote, that aid crude oil theft and losses in Nigeria, including the extent of crude oil theft and losses in the country.
2. Your knowledge of the various actors, both domestic and foreign, involved in the criminal enterprise of crude oil theft, and their various levels of involvement.
3. Your understanding of the specific roles of Federal Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Security Agencies, State governments, and Industry players in aiding and abetting crude oil theft and losses in Nigeria.
4. Your assessment of the effectiveness of existing security architecture and arrangements in combating crude oil theft in Nigeria.
5. Your specific role in securing the critical national assets in the oil and gas value chain and also in your role (if any) in the authentication of export crude export documents at the various export terminals.
6. Specifically, your knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the illegal insertion into the Trans-Escravos Pipeline (TEP) around Yokri area in Burutu Local Government of Delta State, and any indications of similar arrangements existing within the crude oil value chain in the country.
7. Your knowledge of other sources, other than crude oil theft, of loss of revenue from the oil and gas sector.
8. Your suggestions on measures that could be taken by the Federal Government to minimise or completely eradicate crude oil theft in the country.

From: Dundas Sasi <Dundas.Sasi@opts-ng.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 24 July 2024 17:47
To: Obiageli Onuorah
Cc: Gwueke Ajaifia; Lola Adelere; Kevin Dada; Orji Ogbonnaya Orji; Chris Ochonu
Subject: RE: Special Committee on Theft/ Losses: Invitation to a 2 Day Public / Investigative Hearing
Attachments: Response to House of Reps Questionnaire.docx; image002.png; image001.jpg

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Madam,

Kindly find attached the response of OPTS to questions received from the National Assembly Committee.

We wish to inform you that the Upstream members of the Companies' Forum are well represented by OPTS and there will be no separate response from the Companies' Forum Chairman.

Please we are available for any clarifications that may be required.

Regards,

Dundas Alfred Sasi (FCA, FCTI)
Business & Finance Analyst



Oil Producers Tr
OPTS

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Mobile: 0812 063 9221

E-mail: dundas.sasi@opts-ng.com

From: Chris Ochonu <cochonu@neiti.gov.ng>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 7:30 PM
To: Gwueke Ajaifia <gwueke.ajaifia@opts-ng.com>; Dundas Sasi <Dundas.Sasi@opts-ng.com>
Cc: Obiageli Onuorah <oonuorah@neiti.gov.ng>
Subject: Special Committee on Theft/ Losses: Invitation to a 2 Day Public / Investigative Hearing

Good Evening Sir,

Please I have been directed to forward the attached letter to you.

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Best Regards.

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONNAIRE FROM THE HOUSE OF REPS COMMITTEE

1. Your understanding of the factors, immediate and remote causes that aid crude oil theft and losses in the country:

Answer:

- a. Availability of ready market for illicit crude oil and refined petroleum products
 - b. Very high incentives with prolonged/ unresolved criminalities by non-state actors resulting in more ungoverned spaces in the ND region.
 - c. Key stakeholders' collusion, corruption with very high success rates and illicit ROI
 - d. Double dipping from the infractions and the repairs/replacement protocols by local actors
 - e. Near absence of swift/ effective punishments for oil/gas related crimes
 - f. Availabilities of sponsors for the organized crimes
 - g. Lack of employment and access to social amenities for the teaming youths in Niger Delta
 - h. Ease of operations and huge revenue accruable to the perpetrators of this illegal act
 - i. Greed and involvement of local communities who see this as part of their patrimony
 - j. Unresolved community agitations and resort to destruction or vandalism of oil production assets as a means of drawing attention to community demands
 - k. Old and aging facilities and pipelines, leading to leaks and disruption of production activities
 - l. Frequent rupture of pipelines, leading to degradation of integrity and frequent leaks
2. Your understanding of the various actors, both domestic and foreign, involved in the criminal enterprise of crude oil theft, and their various levels of involvement

Answer:

- a. Local artisans involved in illicit local refineries
 - b. Middle-men and low-level traders who breach pipelines to steal crude for refineries or use by industrial organisations across the country, who refabricate their engines to work with crude oil
 - c. Organised criminals who engage in export of stolen crude, using barges and sea going vessels. These include foreign businessmen and ex-militants as well as big time local players.
 - d. Unverified but credible intelligence indicates that offshore Ghana is a major transshipment point and market for stolen Nigerian crude oil
3. Your understanding of the specific roles of the Federal Government Ministries, Department and Agencies, State Governments and Industry players in aiding and abetting crude oil theft and losses in Nigeria:

Answer:

- a. Involve DSS and NIA to gain access to intelligence that will lead to the big players who are involved in the illicit business
- b. Use EFCC, NFIU and other related bodies to identify and prosecute those involved in the illicit business. Follow the money to get to the big players
- c. Review laws to make them stronger for the prosecution of offenders and the penalties heavy .
- d. Set up Special Courts for diligent prosecution of offenders
- e. Utilise government orientation agencies to inform communities and offenders of the danger caused by this illicit act with a view to discourage them
- f. Ensure State Governments involvement in discouraging involvement of local chiefs and communities

- g. Prevent communities from delaying the Joint Investigation Visits (JIVs), with a view to shortening the time spent on repairs of punctured pipelines
- 5. Recommendations on how best to eradicate this malaise.
- 6. Answer:
 - a. Seek for and obtain commitment of state governors and local government to stamp out malaise. Coordinated involvement of state governors critical to success.
 - b. Set up a specially trained, highly equipped and dedicated team of GSAs who will focus on the protection of critical national assets, such as oil production asset and pipelines as we have in some countries.
 - c. Ensure stiff punishment for offenders
 - d. Provide adequate funding, equipment and personnel to protect critical national assets
 - e. Ensure diligent prosecution of offenders
 - f. Provide adequate number of personnel and weapons to dominate the environment and frustrate the activities of these criminals
 - g. Ensure government willpower and intelligence support to identify kingpins and prosecute them with a view to discouraging other perpetrators
 - h. Ensure and high-grade night-time capability among the GSAs supporting operations with a view to neutralising night-time threats, as most of the illicit activities occur at night
 - i. Improve the use of technology for surveillance and monitoring of activities along pipeline right of way
 - j. Improve collaboration and intelligence sharing among GSAs supporting the oil industry