

ITUC - Africa

AFRICAN
REGIONAL ORGANISATION

ORGANISATION
REGIONALE
AFICAINE



CSI - Afrique

President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan

Federal Republic of Nigeria

Three Arms Zone

Federal Capital Territory

Abuja

Mody GUIRO

President

Président

Kwasi ADU-AMANKWAH

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Lomé, 13th January 2012

O/R.: 001/2012/SG/RB

Your Excellency,

REINSTATEMENT OF SUBSIDIES ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

The African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa) expresses its support for the just demand of Nigerian workers and people for the reinstatement of the Nigerian Government's subsidies on petroleum products. At the same time the organisation expresses its outrage at the reported killing of ten or so unarmed workers and protestors.

ITUC-Africa has been following the recent news and updates since the announcement on January 1, 2012 of the 120% plus increment in fuel prices and wishes to ask Mr. President to lend a sensitive ear to the outcry of the workers and people of Nigeria.

The Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and the Trade Union Congress of Nigeria (TUC-Nigeria), both affiliates of ITUC-Africa, acting for the majority of workers in Nigeria, have led in protest demonstrations, strike actions and representation for the reinstatement of subsidies on petroleum products in Nigeria as one of the certain ways by which the Nigerian masses can benefit from the countries' oil wealth which has been the object of plunder by some sections of Nigeria's elite over many decades.

Four days of mass action and subsequent negotiations with government have yet to yield definite results that are acceptable to the workers. On the other hand, government security agents have selectively deployed violence against protestors. ITUC-Africa calls for a halt in the violence against workers and protestors.

While welcoming Mr. President's personal intervention, we urge Your Excellency to add value to the negotiations by making concessions that takes account of the plight of tens of millions of poverty-stricken Nigerians who also deserve to benefit from the country's oil wealth.

ITUC-Africa calls on the Federal Government to do everything to reach a negotiated settlement with Nigeria's unions for the well-being of the impoverished and long suffering working families, communities and people of Nigeria.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kwasi Adu-Amankwah'.

Kwasi Adu-Amankwah

General Secretary