HELLO,
Welcome to LEDAP Nigeria Newsletter
9th-13th OCTOBER 2017

NEWS

15th World Day Against the Death Penalty

On 10 October 2017, the 15th World Day Against the Death Penalty aims at raising awareness about the reasons why people living in poverty are at a greater risk of being sentenced to death and executed.
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This year, International Day of the Girl (11 October) will focus on the theme, "EmPOWER girls: Before, during and after conflict". International Day of the Girl Child is an international observance day declared by the United Nations; it is also called the Day of the Girl. October 11, 2012, was the first Day of the Girl"

Death penalty has no place in 21st century, says Guterres

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called for an end to the death penalty Tuesday, insisting it has “no place in the 21st century.” He urged member states that still execute convicts to join the 170 countries that have halted or abolished the practice, warning that the risk of a miscarriage of justice is an “unacceptably high price” to pay.
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FIDA Nigeria celebrates international day of the girl child 2017

FIDA Nigeria in commemoration of the International day of the girl child calls for increased efforts towards empowerment for the girl child.
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WRAPA celebrates international day of the girl child 2017

To commemorate the international day of the girl child, WRAPA releases a video of motivational quotes
Watch video

Foreign Ministry, FMSM, NBC, 91 Others Non Compliance with FOI ACT

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Federal Ministry of Solid Minerals and Steel Development and Federal Ministry Information and Culture, Nigerian Broadcasting Commission and 91 others are non-compliance in the release of procurement related information as stipulated in the Freedom of Information Act, a report by the Public and Private Development Center (PPDC) launched recently.
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ROHINGYA minority muslims petition: ICC acknowledges receipt of HEDA’S petition

The Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), has acknowledged a petition sent to it by a non-governmental organisation, Human and Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA Resource Centre), over the horrifying state and fate of minority Muslims of Rohingya.
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FOI ACT: Daily times write NNPC over $25BN contracts

Invoking the Freedom of Information Act (FOI 2011), the management of The Daily Times has written to the management of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), requesting the details of the controversial $25billion contracts awarded by the corporation.
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The death penalty in the commonwealth

The death penalty Project released a press statement to commemorate the world death penalty day.
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Avocats Sans Frontieres France marks the 15th anniversary of the world day against the death penalty

Avocats Sans Frontières France (ASF France) joins abolitionists around the world to mark the 15th anniversary of the World Day against the Death penalty.
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PTAD recovers N16b trapped pension fund from insurance companies

Nigeria’s Pension Transitional Arrangement Directorate (PTAD) has recovered about N16 billion pension funds and assets trapped in various Insurance companies and wants to use it to address some of the challenges of pensioners in the country.
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Francis, Coordinator National Centre for Legal Aid and Human Rights Inc, issues statement to mark World Day against Death Penalty

Tuesday 10th October 2017 is observed as the World Day against the Death Penalty. First observed in 2003 by the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP), this year marks the 15th observance with focus on the theme “Poverty and Justice a deadly mix.”
UN Women statement: International Day of the Girl Child, 11 October

This year, on the International Day of the Girl Child, we are focused on how to ‘EmPOWER Girls: Before, during and after crises’. Throughout 2017 we have seen growing conflict, instability and inequality, with 128.6 million people this year expected to need humanitarian assistance due to security threats, climate change and poverty. More than three-quarters of those who have become refugees or who are displaced from their homes are women and children. Among these, women and girls are among the most vulnerable in times of crisis.

Local Government Officials Allegedly Kill 38-year-old Widow

A petty trader, Mrs. Toyin Adelanke, has reportedly died when tax officials from Akure South Local Government Area of Ondo State wanted to collect tax from her, NewTelegraph has reported.

Nigerian govt bans private practice for medical doctors

Nigerian Government has banned medical doctors working in public hospitals from private practice. The decision was taken at the Wednesday’s Federal Executive Council, FEC, meeting presided by President Muhammadu Buhari.

France hits bid to revive death penalty in PH

France voiced its concern about the Duterte administration's proposal to reintroduce the death penalty in the Philippines, as the European country joined the observance of the 15th World Day Against the Death Penalty.

"Poverty and death penalty are inextricably linked"

In Nigeria, poorest are, again, first targets of capital punishment as shown in an investigation by NGO Legal Defence and Assistance Project. His secretary general, Chino Obiagwu, summed up situation: “The question of guilt is almost secondary in our criminal system.” It is a question of whether you can keep away from legal system by paying police at investigation stage, by paying a lawyer to defend you or by paying to have your name on list of those eligible for a pardon.

Presidential panel on rights violations by military concludes sitting in South-east

The Presidential Investigation Panel to review compliance of the Armed Forces with human rights obligations and rules of engagement has concluded its sittings in the South-east zone.

LEDAP@WORK

LEDAP, National Judicial Institute, and AfricaLii
Nigeria Legal Information Institute (NigeriaLii)

Nigeria Legal Information Institute (NigeriaLii) is aimed at bringing legal materials, all laws and case decisions in Nigeria free of charge to the public. The official launch is coming up soon but the NigeriaLii portal currently contains several thousands of case decisions, statutes, rules of court, and other legal materials. To access NigeriaLii visit

LEDAP releases anti-death penalty campaign videos of exonerated death row prisoners

In two videos released on Youtube by LEDAP as part of its 15th World Day against the use of death penalty, the personal innocence stories of a dozen or so released death row prisoners were told. The videos tell the message that there is always a high risk of convicting and killing an innocent person.

Watch videos watch more

Legal Defence and Assistance Project (LEDAP) frees prisoners from hangman’s noose after 13 years

Accused of murder, Owodo was tortured, tried, convicted and sentenced to death by hanging. But LEDAP launched an appeal against his conviction, which exonerated the condemned ‘criminal’ and validated his innocence.

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LEDAP calls for moratorium on use of death penalty as the world commemorates October 10 - day against the death penalty

As the world marks the World Day Against the use of the Death Penalty with the theme Poverty and the death penalty, a rights group, Legal Defence and Assistance Project, LEDAP, has reaffirmed its position that the abolition of death penalty in law and practice should be the firm desire of the Nigerian government as death penalty was cruel and inhumane treatment, which has no place in modern society.

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In commemoration of the 2017 world day against the use of death penalty, LEDAP-Legal Defence & Assistance Project hosted journalists and members of the press in a media parley themed “The Exonerated”.

The meeting focused on poverty and the death penalty while taking a retrospect on the lives of persons who have been released from death row by LEDAP and their various experiences.

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EVENTS

Embassy of Switzerland in Abuja: Inviting Applicants for Small-Scale Development Projects in Nigeria

Deadline: 31 October 2017
The Embassy of Switzerland in Abuja is currently inviting applicants from NGOs, organisations, groups and institutes for its Small-Scale Development Projects in Nigeria in order to assist local initiatives of groups or of organisations whose works contribute to the country’s overall economic progress.

Dynamic actors of the civil society, especially women and minority representatives, are thus helped in their efforts to generate sustainable reforms and overall improvement of living conditions in the country.

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**Global Call for proposals on Human Rights and Democracy has been launched**

The European Union has launched a new Call for proposals financed under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights. The specific objectives of this call are to support civil society and human rights defenders working outside the EU in five key areas of human rights.

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