HELLO,
Welcome to LEDAP Nigeria Newsletter
30TH OCTOBER-3RD NOVEMBER 2017

NEWS

International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists, 2nd November 2017

Over the past 11 years, more than 900 journalists have been killed for bringing news and information to the public. Worryingly, only one in ten cases committed against media workers over the past decade has led to a conviction. This impunity emboldens the perpetrators of the crimes and at the same time has a chilling effect on society including journalists themselves.

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NUJ, Lagos Council calls on media owners to end impunity against journalists paying salaries and emoluments

As the world marks the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists, the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ) Lagos State Council stands in solidarity with all brutalized and harassed journalists within Lagos and other parts of the country.

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"100 years of Bolshevik Revolution - Freedoms for proletarians is still lacking"

The Bolshevik Revolution, Russian or October Revolution, one of the bloodiest, but certainly, the most profound revolution in human history will clock a century next Tuesday November 7, 2017.

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IPC laments Killing, Assault Of Nigerian Journalists By Security Agents, Criminals

The International Press Centre (IPC) on Thursday, November 2nd, re-echoed how media practitioners in Nigeria had become endangered species. It recalled that two Nigerian journalists have been killed in 2017 while 12 others suffered various forms of assaults.

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How Nigerian Police Officers Tortured, Extorted, Harassed Us

Despite receiving training on human rights of citizens, officers of the Nigerian Police Force have continued to unlawfully detain, torture, and harass members of the public, victims of police abuse tell a human rights panel in Lagos. The panel, which comprised members of the National Human Rights Commission and Human Rights Law Services, held a public hearing on police abuses in Nigeria on Monday, October 30th, 2017.

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Hate Speech: Nigerians React to Sanctions Imposed on Radio, Tv Stations

Some Nigerians have taken to various social media platforms to express their views over the fine imposed on 23 radio and television stations across Nigeria for breaches of broadcasting rules set by the National Broadcasting Commission, NBC.

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Amnesty International testifies at Presidential Panel

Amnesty International (AI) on Tuesday, October 31st, testified at the Presidential Panel set up to review compliance of the military on rules of engagement in the battle. The organisation in its evidence by two of its senior staff; Anna Neistat, Senior Director for Research and Netsanet Belay, Research and Advocacy Director, Africa insisted it has a prima facie case against the military and urged the Federal Government to investigate and prosecute alleged perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

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UN Human Rights Expert Calls for Adoption Of Draft Declaration on Human Rights

Professor Obiora Okafor, a U.N. Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity has called on all states to incorporate the vision of the Draft Declaration in their efforts as they strive for the completion of the Sustainable
Development Goals 2030 Agenda, in order to create a partnership that is truly
global and development that is truly sustainable.
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Group Accuses Police of Covering up Rape Of 14-Year Old Girl By Mobile Policeman

A human rights group, Resource Centre for Human Rights and Civic Education
(CHRICED), has accused the Nigerian Police Force of an attempt to cover up the
rape of a 14-year old girl, Maryam Yusuf, by a Mobile Policeman, Corporal Barau
Garba (Police Service Number: 275601).
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Nigeria agrees to Pay N88b Compensation to Civil War Victims

Over four decades after the end of the Nigerian Civil War, the Nigerian
government, on Monday October 30th, agreed to pay a compensatory package
of N88 billion to the victims. The agreement followed the consent judgment of the
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Court of Justice.
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How Lagos Flood forced many from their apartments, crippled business activities

To anyone that relocates from Mainland part of Lagos to the Island, another part
of Lagos that is regarded as a highbrow area where ultra-high-net-worth
individuals live, to them, it is like travelling to Europe from Africa seeking new
ways of life. With joy and enthusiasm, they are proud to tell their family members
and friends that they have relocated the Island.
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LEDAP@WORK

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

Nigeria Legal Information Institute (NigeriaLii) is aimed at bringing legal materials,
al 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.
Legal Defence and Assistance Project (LEDAP) said it's creating a database with a number of organizations in South East Asia in order to determine the number of Nigerians on death row in those countries. The National Coordinator of the group, Mr. Chino Obiagwu said the plight of Nigerians on death row in those countries is a source of concern to him.

LEDAP v Ministry of Environment

By virtue of its mandate to promote good governance, rule of law and public accountability, LEDAP filed an action against the Ministry of Environment under Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2011, asking the court to compel the Ministry of Affairs to release detailed information on the budgetary allocation and releases for the ecological fund made for the period of 2007 through to 2012 respectively and to also give detailed information of how the funds were utilized for the period of 2007 through to 2012.

The court ordered that Ministry of Environment furnishes LEDAP with the requested information.

LEDAP attended a 3-day capacity building workshop for military and, civil investigators and prosecutors organised by Wayamo Foundation.

Date: 2nd to 4th November, 2017
Venue: Abuja, Nigeria
Title: Strengthening Justice and Accountability In Nigeria

LEDAP attends high level convening on genocide and atrocity crimes in the US

Mr Chino Obiagwu of LEDAP who is also chair of Nigerian Coalition on the
International Criminal Court (NCICC) will this week address a high level conference hosted by United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC to discuss genocide and atrocity crimes in modern world. Nigeria's armed insurgencies and tribal/religious conflicts have been marked by heinous atrocities which, if not redressed, will linger into the future generations. The Genocides of the civil war remain in the national memory and many more in the north central and north east region make these times the bloodiest in the nation's history. Sharing these deep issues with world leaders, international experts and victims, the conference hopes to enrich LEDAP's new initiative to promote transitional justice programme in Nigeria.

LEDAP represents Human Rights Agenda Network (HRAN) in the suit against National Assembly

Human Rights Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) under the umbrella of Human Rights Agenda Network (HRAN) have sued the National Assembly to stop further deliberation on the NGO Regulation Bill that seeks to register and regulate Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

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LEDAP Records Success in Out-of-Court Settlement in Human Rights Violation Case

Legal Defence and Assistance Project through its pro bono counsel in Adamawa has successfully reached Terms of Settlement through a Memorandum between the plaintiff and the 3rd Respondent. The terms of settlement notes that the 3rd Respondent approached the plaintiff for amicable resolution of matter outside the court. This settlement can be viewed as a giant stride in the protection of human rights and promotion of accountability in human rights violations in Nigeria.

EVENTS

Advocates for Alternatives (ACA) seeks a Legal Coordinator

Advocates for Alternatives (ACA) is seeking a lawyer with international human rights expertise to manage our legal docket and provide support to our legal partners throughout West Africa. The intended start date for this position is January 2018.

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Invitation

The High Level Panel discussion to launch the CEDAW General Recommendation No.35 on gender-based violence against women updating General Recommendation No. 19 -- 14 November 2017 from 15:00 to 17:00 -- Palais des Nations Room XVI, Geneva, Switzerland

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Call for inputs

Contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 35/21 -- Deadline 30 November 2017

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