



# CIVIL SOCIETY LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY CENTRE (CISLAC)

*Motto: Strengthening the work of CSO at parliament*

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## Press Release

### **MORAL BURDEN FACING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Civil Society legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) like the vast majority of the Nigerian people remains dismayed by the unpleasant findings of the Honourable David Idoko fact finding committee set up by the House of Representatives to Investigate the controversial contracts for the Renovation of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker's official residences and the purchase of luxury cars awarded by the House of Representatives tenders board at obscene costs.

The circumstances surrounding the Contract awards as established by the Idoko Committee elicits a flagrant disregard for due process, the disposition of the Yar'Adua administration on the rule of law and indeed the mood of the nation.

CISLAC sees the infamous contracts awarded by the tender's board under Madam Speaker's leadership as an endorsement of recklessness and affluence in the midst of poverty. We are more than miffed that transparency laws like the Public Procurement Act and the process of open tender were ignored in the award of the said contracts. We challenge the Federal Government to prove that its acclaimed zero tolerance for corruption stance is not a smokescreen by taking definite measures to address the case of misconduct that has been established in the House of Representatives renovation scam. We urge the Presidency not to hide under the cover of 'rule of law' or separation of powers to sweep the scandal under the carpet like the PDP is poised to do. We are aware that the President can order the ICPC or EFCC to institute a probe of the contracts, moreso as the Speaker and her co-travellers do not enjoy immunity from prosecution.

Our position is that members of the House of Representatives leadership culpable in the 628 million naira contract scam are fit only for resignation. We must preserve the unity and integrity of the House of Representatives.

Finally, CISLAC wishes to use this medium to call on the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to reject those ambassadorial nominees before them that have indictments hanging on their necks. We are at a loss on why Mr. President will nominate for ambassadorial considerations people that his party refused to field for elective positions as a result of their indictment in the EFCC advisory list. We insist that our Diplomats must be the very best among us.

Yours faithfully,

**Auwal Ibrahim Musa (Rafsanjani)**

**Executive Director**