



NIGERIA LABOUR CONGRESS

Office Of The President

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February 1, 2016

His Excellency,
Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR,
President, Federal Republic of Nigeria,
Presidential Villa,
Abuja.

Your Excellency our dear President,

ILLEGALITIES AND UNWARRANTED ASSAULT ON WORKERS IN IMO STATE

I bring you warm felicitations and goodwill from the National Executive Council of the Nigeria Labour Congress.

We are compelled by the recent developments in Imo State to address this letter to you. The Governor of the State, His Excellency Owelle Rochas Okorochoa has embarked on suspension and sack of workers through radio and other media pronouncements and without due industrial relations processes or observance of subsisting labour laws. The leadership of Congress had reached out to him to prevail on him to follow laid down labour laws and procedures.

Barely 48 hours after we met with him and his assurances that he would not act outside the law, his government went on air to suspend workers across nineteen parastatals. Worse still, he followed the announcement with the deployment of armed private security and thugs to chase out workers from their offices. This illegal deployment

of brute force resulted in the brutalization of and inflictment of severe injuries on a number of workers.

For example, these armed thugs unleashed by the Governor beat a medical doctor to the state of coma at Uboma General Hospital. A medical doctor and some other health workers were attacked and wounded at Mbieri General Hospital and were admitted for treatment at the Imo

Specialist Hospital, Owerri. Generally, there is a state of siege on workers in the state.

The deployment of armed thugs and private security, if not immediately arrested, has the capacity of bringing about a complete breakdown of law and order, as workers may have no other option than to mobilise to defend themselves.

Your Excellency, I therefore wish to appeal to you to call the Governor of Imo State to order. There are laid down procedures and laws on the disengagement of workers, where that becomes necessary.

While we trust and await your intervention, we wish to convey our continued commitment and support for your anti-corruption drive and determination to re-position the Nigerian economy.

Yours Faithfully,

For and on Behalf of the Nigeria Labour Congress;



Comrade Ayuba P. Wabba, mni
President

