



CITIZENS UNITED FOR THE REHABILITATION OF ERRANTS

CURE-NIGERIA

...Defending Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms ...Enriching our Democracy

*'A Nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones'.
.... Nelson Mandela.*

28th September, 2016

Senator Suleiman Kyari,
Chairman, Senate Committee on INEC,
National Assembly Complex,
Abuja.

Distinguished Senator,

LETTER OF REQUEST TO ASK INEC TO COMPLY WITH COURT JUDGMENT ON PRISONERS' RIGHT TO VOTE

Following the judgement by the Federal High Court in Benin City, Edo State on the 16/12/2014 that inmates in Nigeria have the right to vote and that the denial of their 'right to vote is unconstitutional, illegal, irregular, unlawful, null and void and of no effect whatsoever' and that the 'defendants do not have constitutional right to deny the claimants their voting rights', as contained in the judgement attached to this letter, neither the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) nor the Nigerian Prisons Service (NPS) has taken any steps to comply with this judgement.

Our organisation has written twice to INEC and the NPS on 27/July, 2015 and 11/July, 2016, respectively, requesting both agencies to comply with the judgement, but we are not aware of anything that has been done in this regard.

We are particularly concerned that close to two years after this judgement was delivered; prison inmates, including those in Edo State are not allowed to vote as people of Edo State go to the polls today to elect their Governor.

Consequently, we write to request the Committee to use its oversight powers and influence to prevail on INEC and the NPS to register inmates in the forthcoming state elections and in the general elections in 2019.

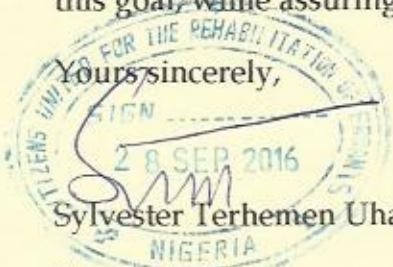
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CURE-Nigeria looks forward to working with the Committee towards achieving this goal, while assuring you of our esteemed regards.

Yours sincerely,



Sylvester Terhemeh Uhaa,

Executive Director,

CURE-Nigeria.



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Hon. Aishatu Jibril Dukku,

Chairman, House Committee on Electoral and

Political Party Matters,

National Assembly Complex,

Abuja.

Honourable,

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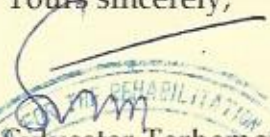
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