

GROUP ALLEGES HIGH LEVEL OF CORRUPTION IN SAHARA GROUP, ASO ROCK, NNPC" AND "SAHARA GROUP INSTIGATES UNLAWFUL ARREST OF DEJI ADEYANJU"

QUESTION/ISSUE

We are aware of certain defamatory publications titled "Group Alleges High Level Corruption in Sahara Group, Aso Rock, NNPC" and "Sahara Group instigates unlawful arrest of Deji Adeyanju" originally published on or about 3rd May 2017 and 18th May 2017 (respectively).

SAHARA'S POSITION

In response to those publications, we state the following:

I. The Publications were masterminded by 'Concerned Nigerians', which unfortunately, is a shadowy organisation in Nigeria that is notorious for peddling falsehood and using smear campaigns to discredit and inflict reputational damage on individuals/corporates for political gain. Concerned Nigerians is known for blackmail activities which follow similar patterns of peddling trumped up allegations to make their targets comply.

II. The organization made these baseless and utterly false allegations against Sahara Group in the publications and its so-called letter, citing a spurious "official document" as the source of its allegations. Concerned Nigerians, under the leadership of its promoter, one Mr. Deji Adeyanju, equally sponsored the publication of stories in obviously compromised online news sites, alleging persecution – apparently in a bid to whip up public sentiments against Sahara Group.

III. After the publication of these falsehoods, Sahara reported the malicious falsehoods to the Nigerian Police Force for investigation. Following the investigation and Mr. Adeyanju's failure to produce any evidence to substantiate the allegations when invited to do so, Mr. Adeyanju acknowledged that he had been misinformed by his sources and that his allegations against Sahara were untrue and unfounded.

IV. By a letter dated 31st May 2017, Deji Adeyanju on behalf Concerned Nigeria

Citizens retracted these false allegations and apologized to Sahara Group.

V. In keeping with our commitment to transparency and business integrity, Sahara Group continues to address issues regarding the Group and documents its position in a 'Frequently Asked Questions' document under the [Corporate Governance section](#) of our website.

