

## **“STOLEN ASSETS RECOVERY: BUHARI DEMANDS FUEL IMPORTS FROM OIL MARKETERS IMPLICATED IN FRAUD”**

### **QUESTION/ISSUE**

The publication of an article on Sahara Reporters website on June 10, 2015 with the headline **“Stolen Assets Recovery: Buhari Demands Fuel Imports from Oil Marketers Implicated in Fraud”**.

### **SAHARA’S POSITION**

In line with the spirit of “right to reply” that guides sound journalism, Sahara Group has responded to the allegations made in the article in their reply statement of June 12, 2015 as below;

Dear Sir,

Our attention has been drawn to the article published on Sahara Reporters website on June 10, 2015 with the headline: **“Stolen Assets Recovery: Buhari Demands Fuel Imports from Oil Marketers Implicated In Fraud”**.

Referring to the unfolding issues surrounding the Offshore Processing Agreement (OPA), the article stated that:

*“Among the companies implicated in her “petition,” Transfigura was reportedly unable to account for \$80 million, Televeras \$111million, while Aiteo apparently gulped down \$150 million. Other oil firms named in the defrauding of the Nigerian people are Ontario, which failed to account for \$135 million, and Sahara Energy, accused of skipping the payment of \$120 million to the government. Our EFCC source revealed that two companies, Transfigura and Sahara Energy, had made some gesture towards paying back some missing funds.*

*However, a source at the Presidency told our correspondent that “so far the reconciliation has involved just paperwork and has not scratched the heart of the scam.”*

We hereby exercise our right of reply to the above referred article as follows:

We would like to state that the reference to Sahara Energy “skipping the payment of \$120 million to the government” is not the true position and that the information provided by your source at the EFCC is grossly misleading. The allegation is at variance with the true position of the recently concluded OPA contract reconciliation. It is imperative for the facts of the matter to be brought to light to address the concerns of