

## FALSE MEDIA REPORT IN POINTBLANKNEWS.COM

### QUESTION/ISSUE

The attention of Sahara Energy Resource Limited (“SERL”) has been drawn to a false and misleading media report initially published by the online news portal, Pointblanknews.com on April 19, 2020 under the headline: “SAHARA ENERGY LOBBY’S MAMMAN DAURA’S SON TO RETAIN CONTROVERSIAL OIL BLOCK OML 11”, which has also been re-hashed in other online media publications.

### SAHARA’S POSITION

The said report makes unfounded allegations and cites apparent falsehood from unnamed sources in what can be best described as a sponsored smear campaign.

The report wrongly alleged that OML 11 block was secretly awarded to Sahara Energy Resource Limited without following the established due process for similar previous transactions. The report also listed various politically exposed individuals with alleged strong links and/or interests in SERL who allegedly facilitated the transaction including but not limited to the late Chief of Staff to President Muhammadu Buhari - Mallam Abba Kyari; the current Minister of Transportation, Mr. Rotimi Amaechi; and Mr. Mohammed Mamman Daura.

For the avoidance of doubt, we would like to state for the record that the allegations in the report are baseless and the above listed individuals do not have, have never had and have not been promised any interests whatsoever in SERL or any of its affiliates.

It is on record that SERL, a Sahara Group company, is one of the foremost indigenous operators in Nigeria's oil and gas sector with a sterling pedigree spanning over two decades of demonstrable and impeccable governance, integrity, service excellence and good corporate citizenship.

It is important to note that this recent publication is not the first of its kind by way of smear campaigns against SERL by pointblanknews.com. SERL had in the past instituted legal action against pointblanknews.com and its owners and secured judgment against it for publishing false and defamatory information about the company. Please click [here](#) for more details.

For the benefit of our stakeholders and counterparts across the globe, we have a duty to set the record straight in view of the aforesaid false and misleading report by pointblanknews.com. We thus urge members of the public to disregard the report in its entirety.

As a member of the World Economic Forum Partnering Against Corruption Initiative (PACI), we remain committed to the principles of good governance, best practice and service excellence that have successfully driven the Sahara Brand in the last two decades

- across its locations in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East

