

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE END OF THE MEETING HELD AT
TRANSCORP HOTEL, ABUJA, ON MONDAY MARCH 23, 2009 AT
THE INSTANCE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS
THE ISSUES RAISED IN THE MARCH 2, 2009 JOINT
COMMUNIQUE FROM THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCILS OF
NUPENG AND PENGASSAN.**

Following the 21-day ultimatum issued by the Joint National Executive Council Meeting of NUPENG and PENGASSAN, a Stakeholders' meeting was held at Transcorp Hilton Hotel Abuja on March 23, 2009 under the Chairmanship of the National Security Adviser. Also in attendance were the Executive Governors of Bauchi and Edo States, Honourable Ministers of Labour, Niger Delta and Petroleum, Inspector General of Police, Representatives of Service Chiefs, DG SSS, DG NIA, GMD NNPC, Oil and Gas Industry operators, President General of Trade Union Congress, and the leadership of both NUPENG and PENGASSAN.

After exhaustive deliberation on the strategies for addressing the unions demands, during which government expressed sincere commitment to addressing the issue of insecurity in the Niger Delta and other issues contained in the Communiqué, four (4) Committees were set up as follows:

1. Security Committee

The Committee is chaired by the National Security Adviser. Other members are Chief of Defence Staff, Service Chiefs, representatives of NUPENG, PENGASSAN and the Oil Industry operators.

2. Privatisation, Deregulation and Petroleum Products

Subsidy Committee

NUPENG and PENGASSAN were co-opted into the Committee which was inaugurated by the Mr. President, as a sub-committee of the Presidential Steering Committee on Economic and Financial Meltdown headed by the Executive Governor of Bauchi State.

3. Committee on Criminality

The Committee is to be chaired by the Inspector General of Police. Other members are DG State Security Services, Nigeria Intelligence Agency and representatives of the two Unions.

4. Standing Working Committee on Labour Relations Issues in the Oil and Gas Sector

The Committee is to be chaired by the Honourable Minister of Labour and Productivity, with other members drawn from NUPENG, PENGASSAN, and the Oil and Gas Industry Operators.

It was unanimously agreed that the four Committees shall commence work immediately with a 3-month time frame for the Stakeholders plenary session to reconvene and review the progress of work on the agreed terms of reference drawn from the Communique.

Emerging from the above resolution and the expressed commitment of the Federal Government to addressing the issues raised, and considering the appeal by the National Assembly, as expressed by the Honourable Speaker of The House of Representatives, the Joint NEC-in-Session agreed to suspend the

impending three-day symbolic warning strike action.

For: NUPENG

For: PENGASSAN

Comrade Peter Akpatason mni
President

Comrade Babatunde Ogun
President

Comrade Elijah Okougbo
General Secretary

Comrade Bayo Olowoshile
General Secretary

Comrade Peter Esele
President, Trade Union Congress

Prince Adetokunbo Kayode (SAN)
Honourable Minister of Labour & Productivity

Ambassador A. S. Mukhtar, CFR, DSS, mni
Major General (rtd)
National Security Adviser