

21st November, 2014

The Executive Secretary
National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS)
Plot 297, Shehu Yar'Adua way,
Utako District
Abuja



Dear Sir,

FOI COMPLAINT: PETITION FOR INTERVENTION FOR WRONGFUL DENIAL OF ACCESS TO PROCUREMENT RECORDS

On behalf of the Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) and the Public and Private Development Centre (PPDC), I bring to your urgent notice the wrongful denial of access to procurement records your agency.

On the 22nd of October, 2014; 21st of November, 2014 and 4th November, 2014, several FOI requests were made by CISLAC and PPDC to NHIS for procurement records on the following:

- Supply of monitoring vehicles for Headquarters Office
- Supply and installation of 7 high end servers and accessories
- Procurement and installation of power systems in Wuse
- Provision of security services for NHIS HQs and Wuse.

Several follow up visits have been made to the NHIS office with respect to these requests. On the 11th of November, 2014, a meeting was held with CISLAC representative at the NHIS office at your instance following a letter of request for meeting dated 10th of November, 2014. The CISLAC representative is reported to have been told that the requests were irrelevant in comparison with NHIS responsibilities.

In the light of the above, may I draw your attention to express provisions of Sections 1, 2 and 3 and 4 of the Freedom of Information Act, 2011 granting a right of access to records by any citizen of Nigeria and the corresponding duty on a public institution to make that information available to the applicant. Furthermore, the provisions of Section 4 (b) of the FOIA, 2011 can be used to interpret the failure of your agency to respond to our request in writing conveying your decision as a wrongful denial of access to information.

Section 7 (4) of the FOIA, 2011 further states that "**where the government or public institution fails to give access to information or record applied for under this Act or part thereof within the time limit set in this Act, the institution shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to have refused to give access.**"

We are therefore requesting that you permit our access to the requested documents in the manner prescribed by the FOIA, 2011 or we will be seeking redress available to us under the FOIA, 2011. Please find attached a letter of request.

Kindly reach us through our Abuja contact office or by phone number: **07066618896** or via email: keturahgbefwi@gmail.com.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,


ILO Nkemdilim
Procurement Monitoring Coordinator, PPDC