



Whistleblowers in Nigeria : overview of the legal framework and practices

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PARTNERSHIPS



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To this end, OCWAR-M works with civil society actors involved in the AML/CFT field. In partnership with PPLAAF, the project is implementing a training activity for investigative journalists and lawyers on whistleblower protection and cooperation with these key actors in the fight against financial crime, as part of which this report is published.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of acronyms	6
Introduction	7
Legal sources	9
Executive summary	10
Tips for Whistleblowers	11
1.ANALYSIS OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK	12
1.1 Whistleblower laws and policies	12
Nigerian Constitution	12
Freedom of Information Act of 2011	12
Whistleblower Policy of 2016	13
Witness Protection and Management Act of 2022	13
1.2 Laws and measures related to combating financial crime	15
Anti-Corruption laws and measures in Nigeria	15
Corrupt Practices and other related offences Act 2000	16



Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Establishment Act 2004	16
Money Laundering Legislation and Enforcement	16
The Money Laundering Prevention and Prohibition Act, 2022	17
The Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)	17
The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission	17
1.3 Media rights and freedom of expression	19
 Challenges to press freedom in Nigeria : legal restrictions and intimidation 	19
1.4 The Access to Information Act and secrecy laws	21
 Freedom of Information Act, 2011 	21
2. WHISTLEBLOWER CASES	22
 Whistleblowers in Nigeria : facing reprisals and struggles for justice 	22
3. RECOMMENDATIONS : WEAKNESSES AND NEEDED REFORMS	25
 Whistleblower protection law in Nigeria : legal gaps and institutional challenges 	25



4. RESOURCES, SUPPORT AND ACTION CENTER



NIGERIA | PAGE 5

27

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AFRICMIL - African Centre for Media and Information Literacy

AML/CFT - Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism

ARCN - Architect Registration Council of Nigeria

CBN - Central Bank of Nigeria

CORA - Corruption Anonymous

CPI - Corruption Perception Index

ECOWAS - Economic Community of West African States

EFCC - Economic and Financial Crimes Commission

EU - European Union

FAAN - Federal Aviation Authority of Nigeria

HEDA - Human and Environmental Development Agenda Resource Center

- **ICPC** Independent Corrupt Practices Commission
- NFIU Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit
- NGO Non-Governmental Organization

OCWAR-M - Organised crime: West African response to money laundering and terrorist financing

PPLAAF - Platform to Protect Whistleblowers in Africa

RWB - Reporters Without Borders

SERAP - Socio-economic Rights and Accountability Project

WIN - Whistleblowing International Network



INTRODUCTION

In West Africa, transnational organized crime, including financial crime, poses a threat to the stability and security of states. Whistleblowers are essential in combating these crimes. They are individuals who disclose information about illegal, illicit, or contrary-topublic-interest activities that they have witnessed, particularly in the course of their duties, in order to stop them and bring about change. However, these disclosures can put their careers, freedom, and even lives at risk, and whistleblowers are often threatened or prosecuted by the individuals or organizations implicated by their revelations.

Although they play a key role in fighting financial crime, there are few laws in Africa protecting whistleblowers. To date, only about ten out of the continent's fifty-four states have enacted legal instruments to protect these actors, and even those may not always be effective.

Furthermore, to encourage whistleblowing and ensure its effectiveness, it is necessary to have robust laws governing several key areas, such as combating financial crime, freedom of the press, and access to information.

In the field of combating financial crime, the adoption and implementation of specific laws are necessary to enable authorities to rely on whistleblower disclosures to conduct investigations, prosecute offenders, and prevent future offenses. The existence of strong legislative mechanisms for fighting financial crimes enhances the credibility and legitimacy of whistleblowers.

Laws guaranteeing media freedom and freedom of expression are also essential to create an environment conducive to whistleblowing. These disclosures can only have a significant impact if they are disseminated to the public by free and independent media. The establishment of laws protecting media freedom creates an environment conducive to the dissemination of critical information and raises public awareness of the issues raised by whistleblowers.



Finally, laws guaranteeing access to information play a crucial role in promoting transparency and enabling whistleblowers to legally share the information they possess. Access to reliable and relevant information is essential for whistleblowers to document their allegations and provide tangible evidence of the wrongdoings they expose.

The purpose of this report is to assess the legal framework in Nigeria in all these areas and analyze the whistleblowing environment in the country. It provides a detailed and critical legal analysis and proposes ways to improve existing legislation.

Through this report, PPLAAF also emphasizes the need for African states to establish progressive laws on whistleblowers to protect them and encourage potential whistleblowers to come forward.

This work is intended for whistleblowers, journalists, civil society organizations, anticorruption agencies, lawyers, magistrates, professionals in the sector, and all stakeholders concerned or interested in whistleblowing and the fight against financial crime.

The Nigeria report is one of fourteen reports drafted and published by PPLAAF as part of the OCWAR-M project.



LEGAL SOURCES

Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Freedom of Information Act, 2011 Whistleblower Policy of 2016 Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000 Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Establishment Act, 2004 Witness Protection and Management Act 2022 (not available online) Money Laundering (Prohibition) Act 2022 Advance Fee Fraud and other Fraud Related Offences Act 1995 Failed Banks (Recovery of Debts) and Financial Malpractices in Banks Act 1994 Nigerian Financial Unit Act



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There are several cases of whistleblowers who have exposed corruption schemes in Nigeria, but whistleblowers continue to face reprisals. Although civil society has been advocating for stronger whistleblower rights in Nigeria since at least 2001, a whistleblower protection law has yet to be passed. As a result of this inaction, protections for employees and citizens who report crime, corruption and misconduct are virtually non-existent, and the number of known whistleblower cases is low. On December 14, 2022, the federal government approved a draft whistleblower protection bill, sending it to the National Assembly.

Currently, the only legislation relevant to whistleblowers relates to public officials who make disclosures under the Freedom of Information Act. In December of 2016, the Federal Executive Council approved a <u>whistleblower policy</u> created by the Federal Ministry of Finance. The policy stipulates that whistleblowers who provide information helping the government recover stolen or concealed assets may be able to receive between 2.5 and 5 percent of the amount recovered. However, the policy is not a law and does not provide whistleblowers with protection from retaliation or immunity for civil or criminal prosecution.

The existing whistleblower policy has lost momentum, due in part to the continued lack of legal protections for whistleblowers. However, in November 2022, a coalition of stakeholders declared their <u>commitment</u> to advocating for an urgent passage of the whistleblower protection bill before the end of the 9th National Assembly on June 11, 2023. The coalition includes the African Centre for Media and Information Literacy (AFRICMIL), Amnesty International, and the Whistleblowing International Network (WIN).



Tips for Whistleblowers:

- While Nigeria has a federal whistleblower reward policy as of 2016, there are no laws to protect employee or citizen whistleblowers from retaliation.
- There are no specific compensation programs for victimized whistleblowers, nor penalties for people who retaliate against whistleblowers.
- Among the leading anti-corruption groups in Nigeria are Corruption Anonymous (CORA), a coalition which PPLAAF recently joined.
- Despite serious threats to media freedom, Nigeria has more than 100 independent news outlets and an investigative journalism center.



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1.ANALYSIS OF FRAMEWORK

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1.1 WHISTLEBLOWER LAWS AND POLICIES

Whistleblower protection is a crucial aspect of the fight against financial crime. This section explores the laws, measures, and mechanisms implemented in Nigeria to ensure the protection of whistleblowers. It examines the rights and guarantees afforded to whistleblowers, the protection mechanisms in place, as well as the persistent challenges related to this protection.

Nigerian Constitution

The Nigerian Constitution grants the fundamental right to freedom of expression, though this right has yet to be embodied in a whistleblower protection law. Section 39 of the Constitution states that "every person shall be entitled to freedom of expression, including freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart ideas and information without interference."

• Freedom of Information Act of 2011

Section 27 of the Freedom of Information Act of 2011 relates to public employees who disclose information in the public interest, including information related to mismanagement, gross waste of funds, fraud, abuse of authority, and public health and safety dangers. The law includes protections for public officials and people acting on behalf of public institutions from civil or criminal proceedings if they disclose information under the law, even if the disclosure otherwise would violate the Criminal Code, Penal Code, Official Secrets Act or another law. The Freedom of Information Act does not apply to the private sector.



• Whistleblower Policy of 2016

Under the federal government's Whistleblower Policy of 2016, individuals may make voluntary disclosures to the federal government through the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning concerning possible misconduct or violations relating to the public interest that have occurred, are ongoing, or are about to occur. Such misconduct or violations include financial malpractice or fraud, misappropriation of public funds, violation of financial regulations, and soliciting bribes.

Information can be submitted anonymously and the whistleblower has the power to choose whether to disclose their identity. However, the policy does not provide whistleblowers with protection from retaliation.

Whistleblowers who provide the government with information that leads directly to the recovery of stolen or concealed public funds or assets are eligible to receive between 2.5 and 5 percent of the amount recovered. In order to qualify for the reward, the whistleblower musts provide the government with information that it does not already have access to and that it cannot obtain from a publicly available source.

In its first few years, the policy resulted in over 1,983 tips, leading to approximately N7.8 billion in recoveries. However, whistleblower reports have recently lost momentum due to Nigeria's lack of a whistleblower protection law. Despite the reward policy, the number of whistleblowers has declined, as Nigerians hesitate to report corrupt practices without legal protections from the government.

• Witness Protection and Management Act 2022

In 2022, Nigeria passed the Witness Protection and Management Act. The Act applies only to certain offenses, including economic and financial crimes, corrupt practices and other related offenses, and money laundering prevention and prohibition. Under the Act, a witness is defined as a person who has information about the commission of an offense and has given evidence on behalf of the State in proceedings related to the offense.



Individuals may also be considered witnesses if they require protection due to their relationship with a witness. Since the Act was only recently passed, it is unclear whether it has been implemented effectively.

The Act establishes the Witness Protection and Management Programme, empowering the agency implementing the Programme to take actions as may be reasonable and necessary for the safety and welfare of witnesses who provide information. Factors considered in determining whether a witness qualifies for inclusion in the Programme include: the seriousness of the offense to which the evidence of the witness relates, the nature and importance of the witness' testimony, the nature of the perceived threat to the witness, the nature of the witness' relationship to any other witness being considered for inclusion, the result of any psychological evaluation, whether there are viable alternative methods of protection the witness, and whether the witness has a criminal record.

Under the Programme, the agency can provide physical and armed protection, arrange for witnesses to establish new identities, relocate witnesses, provide accommodation for witnesses, and provide reasonable financial assistance to witnesses.



1.2 LAWS AND MEASURES RELATED TO COMBATING FINANCIAL CRIME

This section focuses on the measures taken by the Nigerian government to combat financial crime. It examines legislative reforms, policies, and initiatives aimed at promoting transparency, integrity, and accountability in the management of public affairs. While acknowledging the efforts made, it also highlights persistent challenges and prospects for improvement in the fight against financial crime in Nigeria.

• Anti-Corruption laws and measures in Nigeria

Corruption continues to be a central issue in Nigeria. In <u>Transparency International's</u> [1] 2022 <u>Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)</u>, which scores countries based on a scale of zero (highly corrupt) to one hundred (very clean) based on the perceived level of public sector corruption, Nigeria scored a 24 and ranked 150nd out of 180 countries. Nigeria's government has passed whistleblower, freedom of information, witness protection, and anti-corruption legislation to combat corruption. However, several of these provisions are notr implemented effectively in practice.

There have been several high-profile case of corruption in the Nigerian government. In May 2022, the Accountant General of Nigeria, Ahmed Idris, was <u>arrested</u> for money laundering and diversion of public funds amounting to an estimated N80 billion. In 2019, at least <u>eight</u> politicians working on President Muhammadu Buhari's reelection campaign had pending corruption cases. One of these politicians was Abdullahi Adamu, the former governor of Nasarawa State, who was charged with stealing N15 billion from Nasarawa State during his tenure as governor. The full investigation, prosecution, and conclusion of corruption cases in Nigeria remains unusual.

Since the assumption of office of President Bola Tinubu in March 2023, the President of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Director of the Central Bank have been arrested. They are accused of abuse of office.



• Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000

The Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act established the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC), one of Nigeria's major anti-corruption agencies. The Act generally prohibits corrupt practices arising from transactions involving public officials and the general public or private individuals. However, as evidenced by whistleblower Joseph Ameh's case (described below), the ICPC has struggled to effectively enforce the Act's provisions.

The ICPC is tasked with investigating reports of corruption, prosecuting offenders, instructing agencies on how to minimize corruption, and educating the public on corruption. Under the Act, corruption is defined as bribery, fraud, and other related offenses. Categories of offenses include the giving and receiving of bribes to influence public duties, the fraudulent acquisition and receipt of properties, the failure to report bribery, and the concealment of information and frustration of investigation.

Individuals who provide evidence under the Act are entitled to receive a certificate of indemnity from the court, which serves as a bar to any legal proceedings against them relating to the evidence they provided. Subject to certain conditions, individuals who provide information used by Commission officers are entitled to have their identities remain private.

• Money Laundering Legislation and Enforcement

Nigeria has also passed legislation creating offenses for money laundering, fraud, and financial malpractice.

• The Money Laundering Prevention and Prohibition Act, 2022

The <u>Money Laundering (Prevention and Prohibition) Act 2022</u> enhanced existing anti-money laundering laws, providing for the prosecution and punishment of money laundering and related offenses.

Relatedly, the <u>Advance Fee Fraud and other Fraud Related Offences Act 1995</u> prohibits obtaining property or benefits by false pretenses and washing or minting currency. Finally, the <u>Failed Banks (Recovery of Debts) and Financial Malpractices in Banks Act 1994</u> establishes financial malpractice-related offenses for banks and other financial institutions.



• The Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit

As part of the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing, Nigeria is also equipped with the <u>Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU)</u>. It was established in June 2004 and was previously part of the EFCC. Since 2018, the NFIU has become independent and autonomous in its operational tasks, and functions under the <u>NFIU Act</u> and is housed within the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN).

The NFIU, as enshrined in the NFIU Act and the Money Laundering Prohibition Act, has the core mandate of : receiving suspicious transaction reports from reporting entities, including financial institutions and designated non-financial businesses and professionals, receiving threshold-based transaction reports from reporting entities, analyzing the received information, including accessing local and international databases to enrich the reports and disseminating the resulting intelligence reports to law enforcement, anti-corruption, security, and intelligence agencies, as well as regulatory and supervisory bodies, for further investigation and prosecution.

• Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Establishment Act, 2004

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Establishment Act created the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC). It has the power to investigate, prosecute, and penalize offenders. However, concerns have been raised about potential <u>political interference</u> affecting its effectiveness and independence.

Under the Act, EFCC officers cannot be compelled to disclose the source of information or informants' identities without a court order.

Since Bola Tinubu assumed power, the EFCC's President, <u>AbdulRasheed Bawa</u>, has been dismissed and accused of abuse of office.

The EFCC's mission includes preventing and combating economic and financial crimes, as well as investigating, preventing, and prosecuting money laundering and terrorist financing activities. It also coordinates national efforts in the global fight against money laundering and terrorism.



It is evident that despite the implementation of these measures, money laundering and terrorist financing remain significant concerns in Nigeria. The country faces challenges related to these criminal activities due to various factors, including the ineffective enforcement of financial crime laws and widespread corruption. Nigeria is considered a hub for illicit financial flows, given its strategic geographical position and significant economic size.



1.3 MEDIA RIGHTS AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Freedom of expression, press freedom, and media rights play a crucial role in whistleblowing. These fundamental rights enable whistleblowers and journalists to disclose sensitive information safely, shed light on wrongdoing, and protect the public interest. Respecting these rights promotes an environment conducive to transparency, accountability, and the disclosure of information in the public interest.

• Challenges to press freedom in Nigeria: legal restrictions and intimidation

Nigeria ranks 123rd out of 180 countries in the <u>Reporters Without Borders</u> [2] 2023 World <u>Press Freedom Index</u>, a slight progression over the year 2022. According to the report, Nigeria is one of West Africa's most dangerous countries for journalists, who are often watched, attacked, arbitrarily arrested, and even killed. Since January 2023, Reporters Without Borders has identified two Nigerian journalists who are currently detained. Between January 2019 and September 2022, the Press Attack Tracker recorded 161 attacks on journalists. In May 2022, blogger Ahmed Olamilekan was arrested by the State Security Service for publishing a story on Ogun State Governor Dapo Abiodun's alleged criminal records in the United States. In July 2022, Ikenna Ezenekwe, an online publisher, was arrested by security operatives based on a libel petition filed by Primus Odili, the former Chief of Staff to the governor of Anambra State.

According to <u>Freedom House's [3] 2023 Country Report</u>, Nigeria's vibrant media landscape is impeded by criminal defamation laws and the frequent harassment and arrest of journalists who cover politically sensitive topics. While freedoms of speech, expression, and the press are constitutionally guaranteed, these rights are limited by sedition, criminal defamation, and false-news laws. Government officials restrict press freedom by publicly criticizing, harassing, and arresting journalists when they cover sensitive topics such as corruption, human rights violations, and separatist and communal violence. In 2023</u>, Nigeria received a score of 43/100 and was considered as "partly free" by Freedom House.



While Nigeria's constitution protects freedom of expression, several laws timit this right. Laws on cybercrime, terrorism, and state secrets have infringed on the work of journalists and the penal code continues to treat defamation as a crime. Relatedly, legislation regulating social media has been proposed in recent years which would severely restrict journalists' freedom.



1.4 THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT AND SECRECY LAWS

In this section, we will discuss the importance of access to public information for whistleblowers and journalists. These individuals who expose illicit behaviors within the public administration require reliable information to support their disclosures. The right to access public information ensures transparency and accountability, thereby providing enhanced protection to whistleblowers and journalists who can rely on concrete facts when disclosing sensitive information.

• Freedom of Information Act, 2011

The objective of this law is to promote transparency and accountability in Nigeria by granting individuals the right to access public records and information. It establishes the right of any person to request information held by public officials or institutions, without the need to demonstrate a specific interest in the information. The law also mandates public institutions to record and organize their activities in a manner that facilitates public access to information. By ensuring the proper disclosure of information, protecting personal privacy, and providing legal remedies for non-compliance, this law aims to foster a more open and informed society while safeguarding the interests of the public and serving public officers.

According to the Nigerian Freedom of Information Act, government and public institutions must provide appropriate training to their officials regarding the public's right to access information and records held by such institutions. The Act specifies certain exemptions for information requests, including personal information related to clients, patients, employees, applicants, and individuals receiving care or services from public institutions. Trade secrets, commercial or financial information obtained from third parties, and information that could interfere with contractual negotiations or procurement processes are also exempt from disclosure. However, public institutions may disclose personal information if consent is given or if the public interest in disclosure outweighs the privacy protection of the individual.



2.WHISTLEBLOWER CASES

The objective of this section is to list known and public cases of whistleblowers to assess the treatment afforded to whistleblowers in the country.

• Whistleblowers in Nigeria: facing reprisals and struggles for justice

In 2020, Joseph Ameh, an architect at the Federal College of Education (Technical), Asaba, Delta State, was fired after petitioning the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) regarding alleged contract fraud at the college. Ameh alleged that over 60 million naira had been diverted by the College's management and filed a petition in order to obtain protection from the ICPC for blowing the whistle. The ICPC advised Ameh to seek the intervention of the Architect Registration Council of Nigeria (ARCN); however, Ameh was fired after ARCN became involved. While the ICPC petition was meant to remain confidential, Ameh's identity was revealed and he suffered reprisals as a result. The ICPC arraigned several members of the College's management who were found guilty of malpractice, but later discharged them due to "faulty prosecution." According to Ameh, the ICPC rejected evidence he provided and refused to allow him to testify in court.

In April 2017, a whistleblower helped the Nigerian government recover \$43.5 million, £27,800 and 23.2 million naira from a high-end apartment in the Ikoyi area of Lagos. The anti-corruption agency said it raided the Lagos apartment after receiving a tip-off that a "haggard" woman wearing "dirty clothes" was taking bags in and out of the apartment. The agency said the funds are "suspected to be the proceeds of illegal activities". According to some media reports, the Federal Ministry of Finance paid the whistleblower the sum of N421 million, pursuant to the Whistleblower Policy of 2016.

In September of 2016, lawmaker Abdulmumin Jibrin was suspended from the House of Representatives for six months after exposing alleged budget padding and fraud in the legislative chamber.



Jibrin said that "corrupt elements have infected the House, making the institution a hub of systemic corruption."

Two whistleblowers, Murtala Aliya Ibrahim and Taslim Anibaba, faced reprisals for exposing contract fraud at the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria in 2016. During his annual leave, Ibrahim was transferred from the Bank's headquarters to an office in Jalingo and his employment was eventually terminated in May of 2017. In August of 2017, Anibaba was placed on indefinite suspension. After a series of appeals to the Minister of Power, Works and Housing, the panel recommended the lifting of Anibaba's suspension and his immediate reinstatement. However, Ibrahim has remained unemployed since May of 2017 and continues to fight for his reinstatement.

In 2015, PPLAAF-affiliated whistleblower Aaron Kaase blew the whistle on fraudulent financial acts involving the Chairman of Nigeria's Police Service Commission. As a result of his disclosures, Kaase was arrested, detained, harassed, and suspended from his position. In 2017, the National Industrial Court of Abuja decided to reinstate Kaase to his position at the Commission, ordering the Commission to pay him "all his emoluments and entitlements accruable to him during the period of his suspension." After reinstatement, Kaase was acquitted in a case involving charges brought by the current chair of the Commission.

In 2014, then-President Goodluck Jonathan suspended and replaced Lamido Sanusi as governor of Nigeria's Central Bank after he exposed alleged corruption at the national petroleum company, including billions in lost or stolen funds. Sanusi is now a traditional leader, having been crowned Emir of Kano in June 2014.

Joseph Akeju, a former bursar at the Yaba College of Technology, exposed corruption at the school and suffered several reprisals as a result. In 2009, Akeju refused to participate in a "loot" and was subsequently dismissed. It took seven and a half years for Akeju to be reinstated by Adamu Adamu, the minister of education. After being reinstated in 2016, Akeju was transferred to the Federal Aviation Authority of Nigeria (FAAN). Two years after his transfer, Akeju returned to Yaba College and discovered that 1.6 billion naira had gone missing and the college had been giving out frivolous contracts. Akeju blew the whistle on the corruption, prompting his second dismissal. As a result of blowing the whistle, Akeju faced death threats and incurred several debts while pursuing justice in court.



While Akeju was eventually reinstated following a petition at the school's senate, he was almost due for retirement by the time of his reinstatement and has not recovered financially from the reprisals he suffered.



3.RECOMMENDATIONS : WEAKNESSES AND NEEDED REFORMS

In this section, the focus will be on suggesting areas for improvement for the State regarding the protection of whistleblowers, current legislation against financial crime, the government's commitment to combating this problem, and the respect for individual liberties, including the right to information, freedom of the press and expression, as well as media rights.

Whistleblower protection law in Nigeria: legal gaps and institutional challenges

Nigeria lacks a designated whistleblower law that covers employees and citizens from retaliation if they report crime, corruption, or public health threats. Furthermore, Nigerian law does not recognize people who make such reports as whistleblowers. Consequently, there are no legal mechanisms to protect whistleblowers from retaliation.

In addition, there is no government agency to receive and investigate reports from workplace whistleblowers, lend them support or legal advice, or offer them protection from retaliation and adverse consequences.

• How the law should be improved:

As civil society organizations have long suggested, a crucial first step to improve the situation for Nigerian whistleblowers would be to pass a designated whistleblower law that meets prevailing international standards. This should go hand-in-hand with efforts to raise awareness of the law in order for potential whistleblowers to make use of it, and to ensure any new legislation and procedures are strongly enforced.

Recently, a coalition of stakeholders declared their <u>commitment</u> to advocating for an urgent passage of the whistleblower protection bill before the end of the 9th National Assembly on June 11, 2023.



In December of 2022, the federal government approved a draft whistleblower protection law, which was passed on to the National Assembly.

While PPLAAF recommends the passage and enforcement of the draft law, PPLAAF and the Nigerian Human and Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA) Resource Center have made several recommendations for the improvement of the draft law. First, the law should be expanded to include disclosures made in the private sector. Second, the law should protect individuals who have committed offenses while blowing the whistle—while Article 44 grants whistleblowers immunity for acts committed while blowing the whistle, Article 21 contradictorily states that "a disclosure is not a public interest disclosure if they discloser commits an offense by making it." Third, there should not be a good faith requirement in the law, as Article 22's provisions are sufficient to ensure the absence of bad faith. Fourth, Article 29's conditions under which the Commission may not investigate are too broad and should be further limited.



4. RESOURCES, SUPPORT AND ACTION CENTER

In this section, we will explore the landscape of civil society organizations, NGOs, and citizen movements that actively engage in promoting good governance. These entities represent valuable sources of knowledge and expertise, playing a crucial role in strengthening democratic practices.

Corruption Anonymous (CORA)

2nd Floor (Flat A3) # 22 Koforidua Street (by UBA) off Ouagadougou Street Zone 2, Abuja, Nigeria P.O. Box 6856 Wuse, Abuja, Nigeria Tel: (+234) 81 1877 1666 contact@corruptionanonymous.org

Convention on Business Integrity

Contact: Soji Apampa 17A, House 2, Muyibat Oyefusi Crescent Off Akinola Adegunwa St., Off Adeyemo Akapo St. Omole Phase I, Ikeja Lagos, Nigeria Tel: (+234) 1 791 5712 / 819 158 0287 <u>cbinigeria.com</u> <u>info@cbinigeria.com</u>

United Action for Change

This umbrella organization, which promotes good governance and citizen participation, has developed and is advocating for a proposed whistleblower protection law at the state level.



Contact: Muiz A. Banire o.5. Austin Agbolahan Close GRA Magodo Phase II Shangisha Lagos, Nigeria Tel: (+234) 1293 1860 / 802 312 1459 <u>uacng.org</u> <u>info@uacng.org</u>

Socio-economic rights and accountability project (SERAP)

Contact : Dr. Kolawole Olaniyan 2B Oyetola Street, Off Ajanaku Street, Off Salvation Street, Opebi, P.O. Box 14037 Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria Tel: (+234) 816 0537 202 <u>https://serap-nigeria.org/</u> info@serap-nigeria.org

African Centre For Media and Information Literacy (AFRICMIL)

Contact: Dr Chido Onumah 2nd Floor (Flat A3) #22 Koforidua Street (Beside UBA) off Ouagadougou Street, Zone 2, Abuja, Nigeria P.O.Box 6856, Wuse, Abuja, Nigeria Tel: (+234) (0) 8118771666 <u>Contact | African Centre for Media & Information Literacy (africmil.org)</u> <u>info@africmil.org</u>



[1] Transparency International is a non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to combating global corruption. Founded in 1993 and based in Berlin, Germany, the organization advocates for transparency, accountability, and integrity in both public and private sectors. It conducts research, publishes reports, and promotes policy changes to address corruption worldwide. Transparency International is renowned for its Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), which ranks countries based on perceived levels of corruption within their public sectors.

[2] RWB is an international non-governmental organization founded in 1985 with the mission to defend press freedom, promote independent journalism, and protect journalists worldwide. The organization actively works to denounce censorship, repression, and infringements on freedom of expression. RSF regularly publishes a World Press Freedom Index, which assesses the state of media freedom in each country based on criteria such as pluralism of opinions, access to information, and safety of journalists.

[3] Freedom House is an American non-governmental organization founded in 1941. Its main objective is to promote and defend democracy, human rights, and fundamental freedoms worldwide. Freedom House evaluates the state of political rights and civil liberties in each country and produces reports and indices to measure the degree of freedom and democracy.







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