

# ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

## BREACH OF CAN CONSTITUTION AND FINANCIAL RECKLESSNESS

### PREAMBLE

It will be necessary to begin this writing by seeking Biblical exposition (Matt. 5:33-37).

The Jewish teachers had always insisted on the paramount obligation of telling the truth. They insisted that the world stand fast on three things: On Justice, on Truth and on Peace. They said that four persons would be shut out from the presence of God. These persons include: the scoffer, hypocrite, liar and the retailer of slander.

I was particularly interested in the theological definition of a hypocrite. I found out that a hypocrite is known by three shameful acts:

- a. When they talk, they lie
- b. When they make promises they renege
- c. When they are trusted, they betray the trust.

As I look round our organization, I find many people who meet those criteria for the definition of a hypocrite. The Jews also contended that one who has given his word and changes it is as bad as an idolater. The school of Shammai was so welded to the truth that they forbade the ordinary courteous politeness of society as for instance, when a bride was complemented for her charming appearance when in fact she was not particularly attractive. Being truthful is a central mark of Christianity. The Essenes, an ancient sect of the Jews would say that he who cannot be believed without swearing is already condemned. Essentially, Jesus was also saying in this passage that far from having to make God a partner in any transaction, God is already there. There is nothing in the whole world that does not belong to God and therefore it does not matter whether it's named in so many words or not. God is already there. Life cannot be divided into compartments in some of which God is involved and in another, God is not involved. The truth is that Christians must lead such a life and demonstrate such a character that no one will ever dream of asking an oath from them.

In the exhortation of the President of CAN to the NEC meeting in October 2017, he used the story of Simon Magus in Acts 8:18-21. In this very familiar portion, Simon Magus who was a very powerful magician came across the disciples of Jesus Christ especially Peter who had demonstrated the power of the Holy Spirit in the laying of hands. Simon Magus then sought to offer money to Peter to purchase the Holy Spirit. Peter rebuked Simon Magus. Hear Peter in Acts 8:20-21(*But Peter said to him, 'may your silver perish with you, because you thought you could acquire Gods gifts with money! You have no share or part in this matter because your heart is not right before God!*). Simon was impressed with the visible effects of laying of hands and tried to buy the ability to do what the Apostles could do. Simon has left his name on the language, for SIMONY still means the unworthy buying and selling of ecclesiastical position and privileges. There are strong allegations that some Christians in different churches still offer money to be ordained to spiritual positions such as Apostles and Bishops. Worst still, it is

an open secret that financial inducement still plays prominent role in elections to the executive positions of CAN.

### **A SHADOW PRESIDENT**

I do not want to believe that a Simon Magus exist among those who closely surround the President, but if there is, my advice is that they demonstrate very quick repentance as Simon did in Acts 8: 24. I have noticed that at most NEC meetings the Senior Special Assistance (SSA) to the President usually is not a member of the delegate of NEC but hangs around at the back row soliciting support from delegates for the President. I have personally witnessed an instance where he had walked up the aisle during a meeting and approached the high table to speak to the President advising the President on what to react to and who he should consider as his enemies. Although he spoke in his own native language, I also write and speak that language. I continue to wonder what hold does the SSA have over the President? Does he have some information on the President which we do not know? Or which he uses as blackmail to the President?

I have gone to this length to emphasize how important it is for me or any Christian leader who leads an organization must be guided by the truth. I find it difficult to respect anyone who is not able to admit when he does not tell the truth. It is not every priest who has a degree in theology that is a Christian. The idea of writing MTh, PhD, and other academic paraphernalia does not impress me. The Christian Association of Nigeria requires true Christians who have the virtues of honesty, integrity, probity and righteousness.

### **TREASURER WITHOUT QUALIFICATION**

The Treasurer was sent to the Association from the Head of Bloc of CPFN/PFN and when we requested that whoever is to be sent from the bloc should have an experience in accounting, he insisted that degree in accounting was not necessary but rather spirituality. It is the same head of bloc who was made Chairman of the Committee by the President at the expanded PIC to look at the issue of purchase of cars. This Committee did not see what was wrong in the President giving a signed blank cheque to the Treasurer to travel to Cotonou. The details of this will be discussed later. As I write this letter, the SSA to the President is at the office of the President at the Christian center holding meetings with the Treasurer, Confidential Secretary, Accountant and summoning any administrative staff that he so desires. He came to the office in the controversial 15million naira second-hand SUV of the President, which apart from being outrageously priced, was in addition smuggled into the country. What then is the function of the General Secretary? I am tempted to say that the SSA is the shadow President of the Christian Association of Nigeria. He and his team also function as the Vice President and General Secretary.

## **A SEARCH FOR INTEGRITY**

At the beginning of this administration the President made it clear “that all officers of CAN including himself must be prepared to make sacrifices”. He made it clear that each bloc must ensure that their bloc fund all their trips. And he made it clear that he will use his denominational background to show example. And that was why the blocs were asked to choose their representatives from persons living in Abuja. This position has changed over the last 3 months where the President now says “Nobody goes to war at his own expense” yet all past Presidents of CAN have gone to war at their own expense. Their church denominations have supported their travels. The records are there for anyone who cares to see. The current President has spent over N6 million on travels in less than one year. Even the CAN domiciliary (dollar) account has been depleted on travels.

## **NATIONAL CHRISTIAN LEADER OR TRIBAL LEADER**

The Presidency (FGN) has been accused of one sided appointments, yet in CAN as it stands today, of the current four National Directors (CSN is yet to send its representative), three are from South West. In addition, the Confidential Secretary and the AGS are also from the South West. This may be coincidental, but why must the President insist on a Baptist from the South West for the post of Accountant? I was actually at the interview for the administrative staff under the GS, the composition of the interview panel was skewed towards the South West. The President sent in an external accessor who turns out to be a Baptist from South West who holds a PhD in accounting. At the end of the interview, we the members of the panel agreed that an accountant from the South East should be appointed. But the President over ruled the whole Committee and insisted that the accountant must be a Baptist from the South West. At that same interview, the President imposed on the committee a driver who is Baptist from the South West to be appointed as his Driver. These incidences are troubling. Having seen and served with four previous Presidents, I have never heard any President talk about integrity as much as this President. I have been in NEC since 2004 and over this period I have served closely with 3 past Presidents so I speak with experience as regards the management of CAN. Integrity must be demonstrated by our action and not by mere word of mouth.

## **VIOLATIONS OF CAN CONSTITUTION**

### **Article 13A**

- 1. The President shall preside over all the National meetings of the association including the National Assembly, the National executive committee, the President in council and any adhoc or emergency meetings that may arise from time to time. He shall when necessary exercise a casting vote.***

The duties and functions of the President is clearly stated above. There is no provision for **Chief Executive Officer** in any Association be it CAN, NBA, NMA, etc. **The attempt by the current President of CAN to ascribe to himself the title of CEO is unconstitutional.** It is this belief by the President that has prompted him to act with impunity. The President cannot act outside the constitution of CAN. There have been 5 NEC meetings since the administration came to be, no minutes of previous meetings had ever been read at any of the meetings. The reason is simply that meetings are preceded by several presentations from external bodies followed usually by a long extremely contentious welcome address. At the discussion of one of such contentious welcome address, a church leader from CCN advised the President to listen to the NEC members rather than talk down on or dictate to them.

### **III The President – in Council**

- (a) There shall be a President in council which shall comprise, the National Officers of the association and the head/Leader of each church group.***
- (b) The President shall consult members of the President in council or a majority of them before making public statements of policy or taking urgent decision on behalf of CAN in an emergency situation or in urgent emergency the President can act on behalf of the association and report back immediately to the President in Council***

The duties of the PIC and its functions are clearly stated above. The so-called expanded PIC meeting which was called by the President in which he invited heads of churches, Youth Chairman, Women Chairman, was totally unconstitutional. **The notice for that meeting was sent out by the SSA to the President. And the SSA conveniently failed to invite the Vice President and the General Secretary.** A Baptist deacon who is a custom officer in Cotonou was invited to the PIC meeting to give evidence in favor of the President. It is on record also that prior to that PIC meeting, the SSA to the President had summoned a meeting in Ibadan where certain decisions were taken. One of the church leaders at the PIC meeting went to visit the president in Ibadan before the PIC meeting and on his return from Ibadan, he requested the GS to send his account details to him. I emphasized **“account details”** because of some of the evidences given by the custom officer in Cotonou.

At the PIC meeting, a committee was set up by the President which comprised 4 heads of bloc with the CPFN/PFN head of bloc as Committee Chairman. The Secretary of that committee was an accountant who is a head of church invited by the President to that meeting; constitutionally, he is not a member of PIC. The report of that committee which sat for 3 hours was forced on the members of NEC. It is clear that the committee as constituted and the PIC as composed were totally unconstitutional.

At that July meeting of NEC, the President was advised against the visits to Governors and the President attempted to set up committee in NEC to drive for

funds in CAN, but NEC decided that the committee be properly constituted before being operational. However, it was a great surprise to members of NEC that during that meeting the SSA delivered large envelopes containing letters to Governors in different states and this was to be hand carried by members of NEC to their Governors in their states. In these letters to the Governors, the President with the prompting of the Treasurer and the SSA had listed projects within the Christian center that required urgent repairs. These include: repair of the broken walls, painting of the Cathedral, repair of the roof of the cathedral purportedly said to be leaking. The Treasurer and the SSA had brought different people to provide estimates for the repairs. The total is estimated to be about .7billion naira. One very surprising line item in that estimate was a 50million naira consultancy fees. The big question is who will the 50million naira consultancy fee go to? The President, the Treasurer, or the SSA? This estimate has never been discussed at any meeting of officers of NEC. The decision to send this estimate in a letter to the various Governors in July was the height of impunity by the President. Thank God sanity prevailed that none of the NEC members who were given letters sent such to their Governors. The request for payments to be made into the infamous Access bank account of CAN is to say the least, reckless. **It is also curious that the President would set up a Committee to solicit for funds after NEC had established the CAN Trust Fund to perform that role.**

Let's take another instance that is disturbing. Before the meeting of the PIC in July, the SSA summoned a cross-section of members of NEC to a meeting with the President at Ibadan. At that meeting, the discussion was centered on how to manipulate the issue of the purchase of vehicles. And also, to discuss how to essentially change the Constitution of CAN to favor the current President. Reliable sources from that meeting clearly indicated that the body was first addressed by the SSA thereafter, the President addressed the group. Most of the participants at the Ibadan Meeting constituted the expanded PIC in July. Hotel accommodation was paid for them, return tickets to/fro was paid and sizeable allowance was given to them, depending on individual status in CAN. All this money was paid by the SSA to the President. The question is where did the SSA get the money? Or is it the President's money? How can such money be paid by the President of the Baptist convention whose salary is known or a Pastor in Baptist whose salary is also known? More importantly, can this be money from a dedicated account where the SSA pays money received from visits to Governors, Treasurer of CAN or any other source. There must be a way of tracing these accounts.

### **Article 13: 3 The General Secretary shall**

***(i) Summon, on the instruction and direction of the President all meetings of the Association.***

***(iii) Be the Chief Administrative Officer of the Association and be in charge of the day to day running of the secretariat and all staff of the Secretariat shall be under his supervision.***

The functions of the General Secretary as the Chief Administrative Officer of CAN have virtually been taken over by the SSA, Confidential Secretary and Treasurer.

On arrival as President, the Confidential Secretary to the GS was moved to the office of the President. But constitutionally she remains under the supervision of the General Secretary. **The President has recently warned the General Secretary never to issue query to his Confidential Secretary even if she fails to come to the office!** The post of the President is honorary and the post of the GS is a tenured paid position. **The way CAN runs at the moment, the functions and duties of the General Secretary have been slowly eroded by the President using the Confidential Secretary (who is a staff under the General Secretary) and the SSA, who is not an official of CAN.**

Article 13: 5 The Treasurer shall,

***(ii) Present an annual budget and financial report to the National Executive Committee at a meeting of the Committee held before the year in which the budget is to be implemented.***

The function of the Treasurer is clearly stated. The current Treasurer only assumed his honorary position as Treasurer in January 2017. In February 2017, the Treasurer went to the CBN to negotiate a cheque of about 68 million naira which was paid into the account of CAN. In the function of the Treasurer above, there's no provision for the Treasurer to go to debtors of CAN to collect money on behalf of CAN. The process of collecting the money from CBN has raised a lot of eyebrow about the (commercial) nature of the Treasurer. Reliable sources have interviewed the contact person at CBN who is willing to give evidence over circumstances surrounding the cheque. The constitutional provision that the Treasurer should provide annual financial report has not been met. As it stands now, we have had 5 NEC meetings and the Treasurer has not presented any financial report, yet the President does not seem to think that there's anything wrong with that.

**In the last few weeks, the President and the Treasurer have withdrawn N500,000.00 to give as charity to one Baptist church outside Abuja. This decision was not discussed, and as usual the President visited the church together with his SSA, Confidential Secretary, PRO and other Baptist members of CAN.**

#### **Article 17 Appointment and Tenure of workers and staff**

***(b) Heads of Departments, shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee in an honorary capacity and the five positions shared amongst the 5 member-bloc and shall report to the General Secretary.***

***(c) The conditions of service and terms of employment of all employees of the Association shall be laid down by the National Executive Committee.***

This constitutional provision makes it very clear that the National Directors report to the General Secretary. As it stands now, all Directors report to the President of CAN. This is completely unconstitutional and one of the attempts by

the President to usurp the office of the General Secretary. Even the National Treasurer, who is supposed to work through the General Secretary, as the Head of the Secretariat, does not cooperate with the General Secretary. The Treasurer for example will not attend any meeting called by the General Secretary while the President holds meeting in his office with the Treasurer without the General Secretary. An example, will illustrate what is currently going on. The driver that the President enforced on CAN goes on an errand for the Treasurer with the Treasurer's car and had an accident with another car and since he was wrong, he was asked to fix both cars. The President approved over 3million naira to fix both cars and this was done between the President and the Treasurer. How can an organization's finance be so spent? The post of the Treasurer is Honorary and is supposed to be supervised by the General Secretary.

### **Article 18: Financial Support for the Association.**

***(C) The President, Treasurer and the General Secretary shall be signatories to all Bank accounts of the association. The President and any one of the other two signatories namely Treasurer or General Secretary shall sign before any withdrawals.***

This provision makes for the President to sign as A and the GS or Treasurer as B. but it is on record that most of the cheques signed in CAN for over the past one year have been between the President and the Treasurer. This information is available at the banks and can be verified. In the famous trip to Cotonou to purchase cars, the President is known to have signed blank cheques allowing the Treasurer to fix in whatever amounts he wishes. I do not know anything more reckless financially than allowing the Treasurer carry blank cheques.

As it stands, CAN has an account in Access bank, First bank, UBA, GTB. In all these accounts, the President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer are signatories. But since the emergence of the current Treasurer in January this year it has meant that only the President and the Treasurer sign the cheques on these accounts. In fact, the SSA to the President has a complete idea of the balance of each account yet the General Secretary has no idea. Again, this is unconstitutional. The domiciliary (dollar) account held in the Access bank is currently being spent by both the Treasurer and the President. When the last President left, the balance on that account was about 8,000.00 dollars. Of course, the previous administration presented account at every NEC meeting so we know how much was in the account. It will be interesting to know how much the Treasurer has spent from that account for the President's travels. Since July 2016, there has been only one meeting of officers. How can the Treasurer approve travels for the President or the President approve travels for himself despite his avowed administrative experience?

## Article 19: Annual Audit

*The National Executive Committee shall arrange for annual auditing and presentation of all Association's accounts by an accredited Auditor or Auditors.*

It is clear from this constitutional provision that only the NEC can appoint an auditor/auditor. The President broke this constitutional provision by appointing an auditor recommended to him by the Treasurer. The auditor has since audited the account of CAN maintained solely by the President and Treasurer. And the President approved the payment of N350,000.00 for the auditor of which has already been paid by the Treasurer. It is also interesting to note that every Treasurer that has been appointed in CAN has some experience in accounting but the current Treasurer has no experience.

## VISIT TO MUHAMMADU BUHARI

This long-anticipated visit has finally come and gone. The date for the visit (10<sup>th</sup> Nov,) was forced on the association by the Chaplain to the Vice President. **The notice to the State Chairmen and the GS was sent by the Confidential Secretary to the President while the notice to the Vice President was sent by the SSA to the President. This is an abuse of administrative processes.** The President of CAN was comfortable with the visit without the Vice President, General Secretary and The Assistant General Secretary of the Association. However, his team comprised the SSA, Confidential Secretary, and PRO to the President. Others include the Treasurer, the secretary of CCN, and other leaders of CCN, the Bloc which the President comes from. It is on record that the money promised the association by the Presidency was not made available for over 3 hours while some State Chairmen waited. The State Chairmen were directed to return to their states until the money was made available.

The money finally was made available and the State Chairmen including the President's team (SSA, confidential sec, PRO and Treasurer) all received N250,000.00 each. Zonal Coordinators apparently received N500,000.00 each. The Question? How much did the President of the Association receive? How much money was actually given to the Association in total by the Presidency? If all the money was disbursed, it will be interesting to know who did the disbursement?

It is important for us to be truthful by declaring every naira that was given to the association from the Presidency? How can we talk of Islamization when we collect substantial amount from the source we claim is trying to Islamize us?

## VISIT TO AKWA IBOM STATE GOVERNOR

Constitutionally, any request for a visit by the Association to any Governor must be made by the Secretary General of the Association. A President of CAN cannot claim that a visit to the Governor was made on behalf of his church



denomination. The President requested to visit the Akwa Ibom State Governor alone. The Governor was uncomfortable with the request and wondered why the VP, GS, AGS and other officials were not on the list? The President insisted that the visit was a private visit. It was to pray for the Governor alone. So, when the President arrived at the Government House with his SSA, the SSA was not allowed in but the Governor surprised the President by inviting the CAN State Chairman. After the prayer session, a parcel containing N6million was presented to the President. The Chairman of CAN Akwa Ibom helped the President to convey the money into the President's car outside the government house. For doing so, the chairman was compensated with N100,000.00. And the President left with the money which he paid into an account in Uyo. Reliable sources in Uyo will trace the account into which the money was paid.

Let the truth be told about what exactly happened in Akwa Ibom State.

### VISIT TO BENUE STATE GOVERNOR

The visit to Benue State Governor was essentially to distribute relief materials to Christians who suffered the attacks of the Fulani herdsmen. This visit was undertaken by the President, VP, GS, AGS, Chaplain, and as usual the President's team-SSA, Treasurer, PRO, Confidential Secretary.

**At the ceremony, the President, Vice President, GS, AGS were seated one next to the other, and the President directed his SSA to introduce the Executives of CAN to the Governor!** This act is clearly an attempt to usurp the post of the GS by the SSA to the President. The Governor after his speech decorated the President with the traditional Tiv attire. The Governor then gave the President a bag containing a substantial amount of money, which the President immediately passed on to his SSA. Again, it was wrong for the SSA to pick up the money for the association while the GS and AGS were seated. 48 hours after, the President declared that only One million naira was given to the association in Makurdi. Reliable sources have since confirmed that the money given to the association in Makurdi was more than one million naira. What did the President do with the rest of the money? Here I believe that the truth once more must be found and told.

### VISIT TO ENUGU STATE GOVERNOR

Here again, it was similar to the visit in Makurdi only that the VP, GS did not go but the AGS who went was abandoned in his hotel room forcing him to return to Abuja. The President visited the Governor with his team (SSA, Treasurer, Confidential Sec, Accountant, PRO). Here again it was declared by the President that the Governor of Enugu State gave only one million naira to CAN. Reliable sources have proved that this also was not true. The President should come out with the truth.

## VISIT TO RIVERS STATE GOVERNOR

The visit to the Rivers State Governor was a very much publicized visit. All Christians who watched on TV saw the President and his SSA at the governor's office. The exchange of gifts from the rivers state to the governor included a carrier bag which was delivered to the President and immediately taken by his SSA. The contents of the gifts to the President have been made known by reliable sources. But sufficing to say it was the most financially rewarding visit by the President of CAN to any state governor. The SSA to the President who took delivery of the package should tell CAN how much was in the bag.

## VISIT TO ABIA AND IMO STATES GOVERNORS

The chairmen of CAN in both States have said clearly that the President has requested to visit, but the Governors refused without the presence of CAN officers and Executives.

## VISIT TO ADAMAWA STATE CAN

In the last few weeks, the GS of CAN as is statutorily provided and practiced by all previous Presidents of CAN was invited by Adamawa State CAN to supervise the election of their new Executives. The election was free, fair and well conducted. Recently, the President of CAN visited Adamawa State and removed the duly elected Vice Chairman from the Anglican communion and replaced him with a Baptist Priest who did not contest election, without due consultation with the GS. Again, this is the act of impunity that we have continued to witness under this current President. Who paid the transport for the President and his usual team (SSA, Treasurer and Confidential secretary) to visit Adamawa? In the Imo State election of executives, again the GS sent a representative to supervise the election. The representative on arrival on the ground of the State election found that the SSA to the President was already there. When asked what he was doing in Imo State he said he was sent by the President to ensure that certain executives were elected. He quickly added that he paid his way here and as well for his accommodation from his pockets. Remember "The dedicated account".

## MEETING OF CHURCH LEADERS AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH IN LAGOS

This meeting of church leaders was announced in the CAN President's report to NEC in October 2017. The President has said that the idea of an assembly was suggested by Pastor Adeboye when he paid a visit to the CAN president in Ibadan. The objective was to allow for unity of all churches in Nigeria especially the church leaders. **The President presented to us the idea of having this meeting with church leaders in Lagos but before the NEC meeting there was no discussion with the VP, GS and AGS of any such meeting. It was however surprising to find out that the invitation cards had been printed by the President even before the NEC meeting. Most intriguing was the fact that**

**the RSVP on the card was the Treasurer and Bishop Adegbite. Where therefore is the GS in all this? Who then is the Chief administrative officer? The Treasurer or GS?**

The VP, the GS and the AGS all attended the meeting in Lagos at their own expense while the Treasurer, the SSA, the Confidential Sec. to the President were all in Lagos a day or two before. They printed souvenirs, cards and all financial transactions without the knowledge of the GS. This has never happened before in CAN, this indeed is a broken CAN where the President acts with impunity. This can be seen from the opening remarks at that meeting from the President. The President once again lamented that as the first Christian in Nigeria, CAN could only give him a second-hand jeep. **The truth is that CAN never gave him a second-hand jeep but he bought a second-hand jeep for himself from CAN's lean funds.** In the speech, he narrated how the Christian center was in a state of dilapidation, how he was to repair the broken walls, and repair of the cathedral. He appealed for the Christian center to be supported by church leaders. The main source of financing that CAN had wanted was the CAN Trust Fund. And the Trust Fund was introduced to the assembly by the Coordinator of the Trust Fund. The immediate past President of CAN and a national church leader in the country made the point clear that the Trust fund was the only acceptable way of raising funds for CAN. One of them even went further to state that, direct appeal for funds for repairs and other things for the cathedral from church leaders will be untidy.

I was surprised when the estimated cost of repairs .7billion naira was quickly passed round the hall. In this document appeals were made for direct donations to the Access bank account of CAN presently run by the President and the Treasurer. Despite convening a meeting to garner support for the CAN Trust Fund, it was the Access bank account number that was flashed on the screen for anybody willing to pay into. Even after protest by the Coordinator of the CAN Trust Fund, the Access Bank account was not removed and none of the three accounts of the CAN Trust Fund was displayed. Why would the President and "his team" insist on having churches and church leaders donate money into the Access bank account which does not have probity and accountability structure like the three accounts of the CAN Trust Fund? What is the rationale behind operating a parallel fund-raising account in CAN after NEC established the CAN Trust Fund? The money which the Trust Fund is expected to gather, is it not for the purpose of funding CAN? The Access Bank account is operated exclusively by the President and the Treasurer and it is this same account that the estimates for repair at the center are supposed to be paid into. Again, the question is who gets the consultancy fees, and who are the consultants? Who approves these estimates for these consultants?

## **PURCHASE OF VEHICLE**

This has remained the most controversial issue of CAN, in recent times. It is true that there was some sort of approval by NEC to purchase these cars, but the trip to Cotonou remains controversial. The President insists that the GS should lead the team to Cotonou but the Treasurer was in possession of the blank cheque signed by the President on the trip to Cotonou while the SSA carried some

thousands of dollars and the 15 years Deacon of Baptist church, who is also a Custom officer, coordinated the activities at the border. In fact, the General Sec. and the AGS had their transport tickets paid by the Treasurer.

In Cotonou, it was the SSA that picked the car for the President and the Vice President. And the payment for these cars were all done between the Treasurer and the SSA. If we turn to the car of the Vice President, it is a Toyota highlander SUV. **That vehicle is on sale at a car port in Kubwa for between 4.5-5million naira. The car was supposedly purchased in Cotonou by the Treasurer and the SSA for 11.6million naira, so there's a difference of about 6.6 million naira** and this has to be accounted for by the Treasurer, the SSA and the Baptist deacon at the border.

Where is this difference being held? My suspicion is that the SSA, Treasurer and the Deacon have kept this money somewhere either in their own accounts or in a dedicated account. A forensic audit or an administrative panel will be needed to get at the bottom of this. Remember that all we want is the truth.

It is on record that when the car for the office of the Vice President was taken to the Customs Office in Abuja, the car was said to be smuggled into the country and it must be asserted whether this is true or not? It has to be said also that the car on two occasions was to be sold to church leaders who refused to buy because the car was not worth more than 5million naira. I mentioned this at the recent meeting of NEC and the President said they were not true. I would like the 2 church leaders to be invited at an administrative panel to give evidence.

The reason why the issue of purchase of cars has been in the media is because CAN spent 43 million naira out of 68 million naira available to CAN. In a report by the Treasurer to the October 2017 NEC meeting but was not discussed, he indicated that about 3million naira was spent for landscaping or grass cutting for the premises of CAN. It will also be recalled that the President directed that some millions of naira be paid to Dr. Jeremiah Gado in the out of court settlement. He also asked that some millions be paid to lawyers of CAN for out of court settlement. It is therefore no wonder that at the last NEC meeting last month, the President in collusion with the Treasurer announced that if Secretariat Staff salaries are paid in October there won't be money available to pay staff in November. If this is not financial recklessness, what then is it?

## CONCLUSION

I want the truth told and done in a transparent manner for every member of CAN to see. I suggest an extraordinary meeting of NEC of CAN be called to look at these matters or a meeting of head of churches comprising all past Presidents to look into the matter. Enough is Enough for the dictatorial tendency of the current President of CAN.

CAN must be taken out of the grips of the SSA, Treasurer and the President himself who looks helpless in the presence of his SSA. Why is this so? Is it possible that the SSA to the President holds a dedicated account for the President and uses this to blackmail the President? God forbid! The devil is a liar!

**PS:**

**GOVERNOR TO RELIGIOUS CLERICS**

In an article in Vanguard newspaper (November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017) titled ***Religious Leaders engineer Politicians to steal—Ambode and others.***

The Governor in this article accused the religious leaders of pushing political leaders to steal by the way they patronise the politicians and other influential individuals in the society who now do anything possible to meet up with their expectation. This article is a must read for the President and his team. And may require a public debate to determine whether this is true or “fake” news. I have drawn attention to this article because all through this letter I have written, this is what I am worried about when the President and his team visit Governors for publicity and entertainment allowances.

***Elder Professor JAM Otubu***  
***VP CAN***