

Department of Petroleum Resources
7 Kofo Abayomi Street Victoria Island,Lagos

INVITATION TO A CIVIL SOCIETY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM

Theme: Strengthening Transparency, Increasing Investment

The Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) is the government agency that oversees all the activities of companies licensed to engage in any petroleum activity in the country, with the objective of ensuring that national goals and aspirations are not thwarted, and that oil companies carry out their operations according to international oil industry standards and practices. It keeps records and other data of the oil industry's operations and informs Government about all activities and occurrences in the petroleum industry.

Recommendations from the just concluded Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) Financial, Physical and Process audits of the extractive sector include the strengthening of institutional capacity and increase in transparency and accountability.

It is the deliberate policy of DPR to open up the procedure for allocation of oil licenses in Nigeria to the widest competition and public scrutiny. In pursuing this objective the DPR regularly consults with civil society organizations for suggestions and input to improve process compliance to the transparency template of the NEITI.

In furtherance of the foregoing the DPR invites the general public to a **Civil Society Stakeholder's Forum** to receive input in making the oil bid round more transparent, accountable and responsive.

Discussants/Participants shall examine emerging issues in oil licensing in Nigeria including the 2005 Bid Round, Allocation and sales of reserves held by NNPC, Nigeria –Sao-Tome Joint Development Zone (JDZ) and the upcoming 2006 bid round.

DPR believes that the opening up of the process to the widest scrutiny and input by civil society will enable better understanding of processes and practices in the Nigeria Oil and Gas Industry.

Date: Friday 21 July 2006
Venue: Protea Garden City Hotel Port Harcourt
Time: 10 am Prompt

Engr Tony Chukwueke
Director, DPR