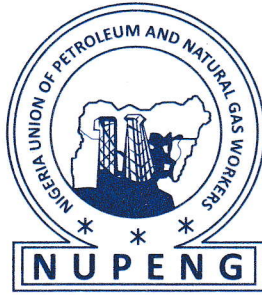


NIGERIA UNION OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WORKERS

AFFILIATED TO THE
NIGERIA LABOUR CONGRESS (NLC)
& IndustriALL Global Union



HEAD OFFICE:

9, Jibowu Street, Yaba, Lagos.

Tel: +234 703 188 1138, +234 803 305 1883,
+234 813 452 5338, +234 809 922 2778.

Website: www.nupeng.org

Email: headoffice@nupeng.org

Ref: _____

Date: 5th September, 2025

PRESS STATEMENT

NUPENG STANDS AGAINST ALIKO DANGOTE'S PRIMITIVE CAPITALIST MONOPOLISTIC AND ANTI UNION AGENDA AIMED AT RAISING PRICES AND ATTACKING LIVING STANDARDS OF THE MASSES ON THE LONG RUN

The Nigeria Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) condemns in absolute terms the unlawful, illegal and unconstitutional anti-union practices of Alhaji Aliko Dangote and his cousin Alhaji Sayyu Aliu Dantata.

The entire oil and gas Stakeholders were astounded and shocked, when on the 14th June 2025, we read and heard like every other Nigerians, what seemingly appears to ordinary people to be philanthropic gesture of Alh Aliko Dangote declaring its intention to import 4,000 (which is now 10,000) CNG Trucks into the country and commence nationwide distribution of petroleum and diesel products free of logistics cost from 15th August 2025 to Petroleum Stations and Industrial set ups.

Though deeply concerned and worried, the leadership of the National Association of Road Transport Owners (Employers Association of the Petroleum Tanker Drivers) and the leadership of the Nigeria Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) rather than going on the streets to protest against the declaration, sought audience with Alh Aliko Dangote, to seek clarification on the intention behind the declaration of 14th June, 2025 and he then instructed his cousin, Alh Sayyu Aliu Dantata the owner of MRS Energy to meet with us on 23rd June 2025.

At the meeting of 23rd June 2025, Alhaji Sayyu Aliu Dantata declared that he and Alhaji Aliko Dangote had resolved to have monopolistic control, not only of crude oil refining, but also distribution of the products. The planned importation of 10,000 CNG trucks is part of the plan for nationwide distribution.

In a brutally cold and crude manner, Alhaji Sayyu Aliu Dantata informed NUPENG and NARTO leaders that the truck drivers they will recruit will not be allowed to join any existing union, but a new union will be formed for them.



Arising from the unfortunate outcome of the meeting, the leadership of the Union have made several efforts to get relevant institutions of the country to make Alh Aliko Dangote and his cousin, Alh Sayyu Ali Dantata to follow line of global best practices and decency but all to no avail.

To our utmost shock, Alhaji Sayyu Aliu Dantata's MRS commenced the recruitment of drivers for the imported CNG Trucks on Friday, 29th August 2025. The drivers being recruited are being forced to sign an undertaking not to belong to any existing union in the Oil and Gas Industry.

The recruitment being carried out on the condition of not joining existing union is the implementation of the position declared to us by Alhaji Sayyu Aliu Dantata on 23rd of June 2025, when the leadership of NUPENG and NARTO had the meeting with Alhaji Sayyu Aliu Dantata who represented himself and Alhaji Aliko Dangote.

NUPENG is seriously concerned and disturbed with the unconscionable business practices of Alhaji Sayyu Aliu Dantata and Alhaji Aliko Dangote who are scared of allowing unions to exist in their business outfits. To us, amassing wealth on the basis of enslavement, depriving workers of a union and voice amounts to creating filthy wealth. NUPENG will not stand idly by while these billionaires seek to destroy the livelihoods of thousands of workers, including tanker drivers.

NUPENG stood in solidarity with Dangote Refinery during its construction and commissioning. We did so in good faith, in expectation it would create jobs, strengthen local capacity, and benefit the Nigerian people, under a conducive atmosphere for unions to thrive. Unfortunately, Alhaji Aliko Dangote has chosen to betray that trust by scheming to monopolise distribution, crush competition, and enslave the sector and raise prices, which would ultimately result in an attack on the living standards of the masses of ordinary Nigerians.

This is not philanthropy, it is economic sabotage!

This is not a gift—it is a trap!

This is not progress—it is a death knell for working masses, small and medium scale investors, their dependants, official institutions, extant labour laws and inclusive economic growth and development!

It's a well thought-out position and known fact that transition to cleaner and sustainable energy must be fair, inclusive and just. There is definitely no fairness, no justice or inclusiveness in what Alh Aliko Dangote and his cousin are doing.

We call on the Nigerian Midstream & Downstream Petroleum Authority (the Authority, for short) to invoke its powers under **Section 32(u) & (aa) of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA)**. Under those two provisions, the Authority is empowered to promote competition and private sector participation in the midstream and downstream petroleum operations. The Authority has responsibility to identify, investigate and prevent abuse of dominant positions and restrictive business practices with regard to midstream and downstream petroleum operations.

Nigeria is a member of the international community and a State member in the International Labour Organisation. Nigeria has ratified Convention No. 87 of 1948, the Convention on **Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise, 1948**. This Convention had been ratified by Nigeria, as far back as 17th October 1960. Under the Convention, workers have the right to join unions of their choice, for the protection of their employment and trade union rights, and without prior authorization of any employer or authority.

Indeed, by virtue of **section 254C (2) of the Constitution of Nigeria**, a ratified ILO Convention is a constitutional provision. Therefore, any practice or policy by any employer which seeks to deprive workers of the right of association is an affront to the Constitution.

Above all, the rights of association, including membership of trade unions, is guaranteed by **Section 40 of the Constitution**. Alhaji Aliko Dangote and his cousin Alhaji Sayyu Aliu Dantata should not be allowed to enslave Nigerian workers. They should be made to be lawful business persons and not lawless individuals and business outfits. Nigeria is a country of laws, not a lawless society.

By **Section 9(6) of the Labour Act**, workers cannot be penalized for their membership or non-membership of trade unions.

PUBLIC NOTICE

By this statement, we call on the Federal Government of Nigeria and its agencies, including well-meaning segments of the Nigerian society, to call the two trillionaire businessmen to order. **They should be told to obey the laws of Nigeria. If they persist in their anti-union tyrannical attitudes, NUPENG is set and ready to mobilize its forces to fight within the framework of the law.**

Meanwhile, since Alh Aliko Dangote and his cousin have resolved to replace all Petroleum Tanker Drivers in Nigeria and there is no one or institution that can stop him, the members of the Petroleum Tanker Drivers Branch of NUPENG will from Monday, 8th September 2025, start looking for alternative employments/skills and sources of livelihoods.

We plead with the general public to bear any inconveniences our struggle against this tyranny and indecency may cause; **IT IS A STRUGGLE THAT MUST BE WAGED!!!!**

We call on all other industrial unions and the central labour organisations, the NLC, TUC and global Union Federations to get ready to stand in solidarity with peaceful mass actions and industrial actions in defending labour rights.

Workers are no slaves!

To resist existence of unions is to prevent collective bargaining with a view to imposing terms and conditions of work unilaterally.

To resist unionism is to seek to enslave!

Respect for labour rights, including observance of the right of freedom of association cannot be waived.

The working class will not be sacrificed on the altar of corporate greed!

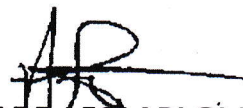
NUPENG stands ready to mobilise and resist any attempt to destroy jobs and undermine our industry!

Our Solidarity remains Constant, for the Union makes us Strong!

Signed:



COMRADE (PRINCE) WILLIAMS AKPOREHA
National Executive President



COMRADE AFOLABI OLAWALE
General Secretary