

**Contact Information**

ERA/FoEN Headquarters:  
214 Uselu-Lagos Road  
P.O.Box 10577  
Ugbowo, Benin City, Nigeria

Email: [eraction@eraction.org](mailto:eraction@eraction.org)

Lagos Office:  
397b George Crescent,  
Agbalajobi Estate,  
Off WEMPCO Road,  
Ogba, Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria

Port Harcourt:  
10 Ibaa Street  
D/Line, P.O. Box 13708  
Port Harcourt, Nigeria

Yenagoa:  
Niger Delta Resource Centre  
Koko House  
P.M.B 114, Yenagoa, Nigeria



[www.eraction.org](http://www.eraction.org)



like us on:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Environmental-Rights-ActionFriends-of-the-Earth-Nigeria/81335606026>



follow us on:

<https://twitter.com/ERAFoEN1>

# Agip's Azuzuama TRAGEDY



ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS ACTION  
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH NIGERIA



### Report

Alagoa Morris, Godwin Ojo, PhD, and Nimiemi Morris

### Acknowledgement

Thanks to Maria Obaseki and Barr. Chima Williams for additional reports and contributions.

### Published by

Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria

© ERA/FoEN AUGUST 2015



HoCoN



The Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria (ERA/FoEN) through field monitoring has recorded the death of 14 persons while several others were burnt along Agip's Tebidabe-Clough Creek pipeline at a damaged section of the pipeline during a Joint Investigation Visit (JIV). It has conducted field visits to the sites and documented the tragic incident which occurred on the 9th July 2015. Such incidence is not new in the operations of the Nigerian Agip Oil Company [NAOC] but is becoming a recurring issue needing attention.

Before we turn to the incident which claimed several lives in 2015, perhaps more pathetic is the Agip Ozochi Tragedy which claimed at least 7 workers attempting to clear a major spill by a state of the art technology of spade and bucket. The spillage occurred in early June 1995 and eventually 7 persons were roasted while clearing oil spills by spade and bucket. When the spill occurred, Agip reacted by contacting DAEWOO, a contracting firm for the clean up. The firm in turn hired some 20 unskilled labourers from Ozochi, Odua, and without any supervision from Agip or DAEWOO and without any training and proper clean up kits were mobilized to site on 25 June. As instructed, they dug pits which they transferred the crude oil into in order to set it ablaze later. By noon during a short break one of the crew decided to smoke a cigarette.

He struck a match and the entire spillage site erupted in flames. 14 of the labourers were instantly trapped in the inferno, and 5 men died on the spot. The four unhurt labourers working some 100 metres away carried the injured to the nearest community 10 kilometres away and two of the injured later died in the community. The seven injured were later admitted at Ahoada General Hospital.



This was in addition to destruction of the environment, farmlands and biodiversity. For details of the dead, see the list in Table 1: The Agip Ozochi Tragedy victims.

It is perhaps the nonchalance and care free attitude of response that is most painful.

At that time, Chief N.H. Oduma, the Ozochi community head lamented:

“They (Agip and DAEWOO) have done nothing for the victims or the injured. They have done nothing to stop the spillage. They have not sent one tablet, one cloth, not even a letter of sympathy. They are very callous people.”<sup>i</sup>

On 13 May 2000 a major spill and fire from Agip facility crude oil pipeline constructed since 1972 wreaked havoc in several communities in Etieama close to Ogbolomabiri, headquarters of Nembe West LGA Bayelsa state.

According to the report by ERA/FoEN Field Monitors, the fire resulted from an attempt to suck the crude oil away using a faulty pumping machine and sparks from it led to the roasting alive of at least six youths. The Agip Millennium inferno from the spill affected several communities: Igbeta-Ewoama, Iwokiri, Agbakabiriro, Sabatoru, Kemenini, and several other neighbouring communities. The fire resulted in the death of 6 people.<sup>ii</sup>

Table 1: Agip’s Ozochi Tragedy Victims

S/N	Names	Profession	Age	Marital Status	Head Condition
1.	Ezebulunmo Benson	Farmer	30	Married with children	Dead
2.	Uzije Bell	Unemployed	25	“	Dead
3.	Abott Alabi	Farmer	32	“	Dead
4.	Innocent Eferibo	Farmer	35	“	Dead
5.	Brother Rueben	Farmer	45	“	Dead
6.	Nkem Biko	Farmer	38	“	Dead
7.	Simon Biko	Unemployed	25	“	Dead
8.	Double Abadi	Farmer	50	“	Injured
9.	Good head Oluhero	Farmer	35	“	“
10.	Okpara John	Farmer	38	“	“
11.	Henry Ikega	Farmer	35	“	“
12.	Eke Moses	Farmer	25	“	“
13.	Okpara Dim kpa	Farmer	30	“	“
14.	Agu Alali	Farmer	29	“	“

Source: Various sources and ERA’s archives, 1995.

<sup>i</sup> See *The Ozochi Tragedy: Agip's Oil Spillage Kills 7*. ERA/FoEN Field Report, June 1995.

<sup>ii</sup> See *Agip's Millennium Fire Roasts Six to death*. ERA's Field Report No. 61, 18 May 2000.

On Sunday, 29th July, 2012 a similar incident happened along Agip pipeline within Ayamabele/Kalaba community environment, in Okordia clan, Yenagoa LGA. As captured in an ERA/FoEN field report at the time, while trying to clamp a spill point, there was a sudden fire outbreak and 16 persons who made up the Agip team [including military men] and 4 community youths narrowly escaped death. However, a machine brought for the repair job and the vegetation were seriously burnt. Community folks at Ayamabele/Kalaba informed ERA/FoEN that they were lucky to have escaped unharmed though some of them missed their way home several times as there were no footpaths in the bush away from the site of the fire.

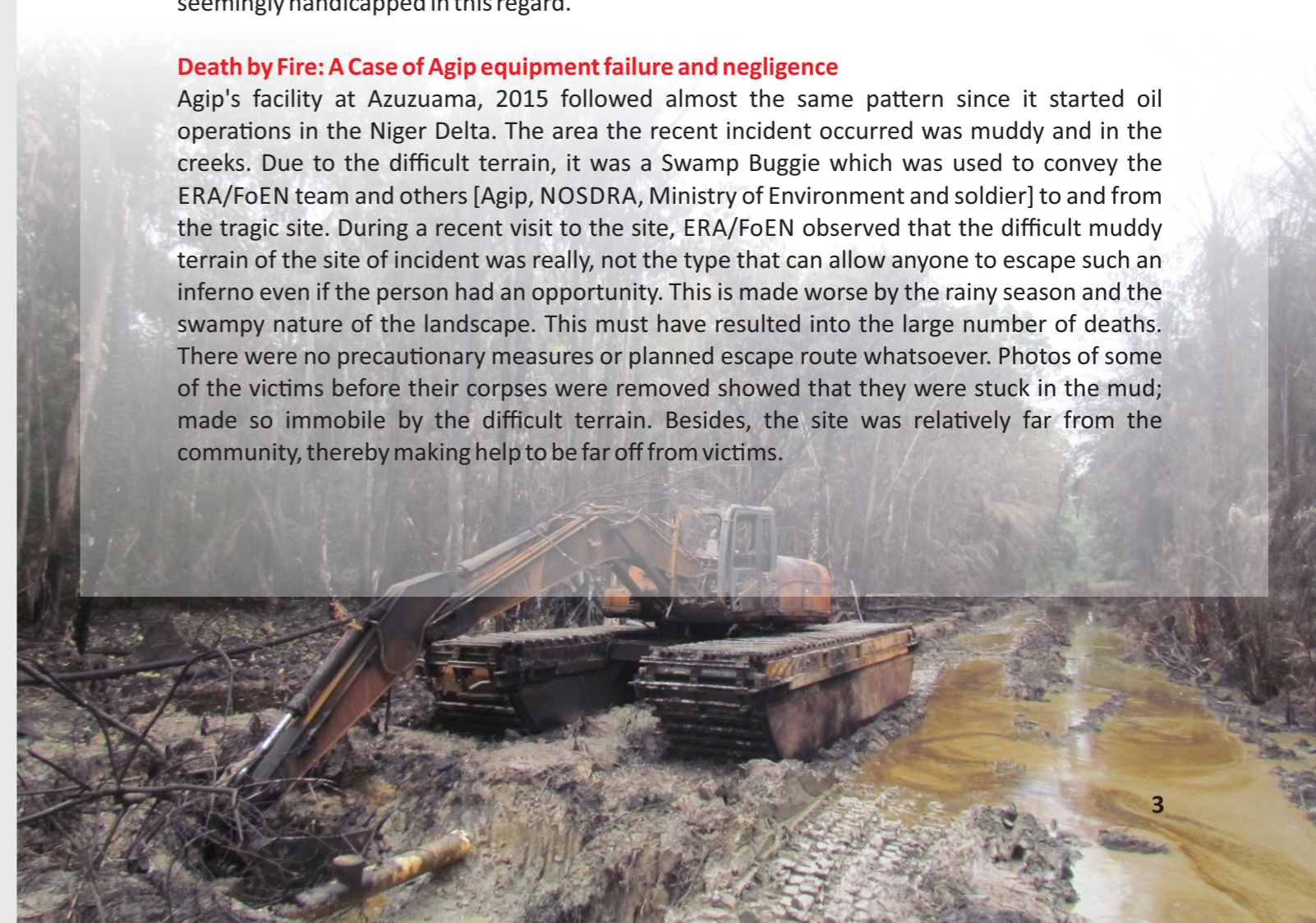
The recent incident on July 9th 2015 at Azuzuama in Bassan Clan, Southern Ijaw LGA is yet another sad episode from NAOC operations as the testimonies from bereaved families and officials of the Bayelsa State Ministry of Environment indicate below.

It will be interesting for Agip to tell the world its level of responsibility and liability and what measures were taken to clean up and compensate the bereaved families.

That this trend is normal occurrence to oil companies particularly Agip has been shown in the recent case presented in this document. Up till now, Agip is yet to respond officially even though preliminary meetings have been held, nothing tangible has come out in terms of responsibility and liability. This is very unacceptable. This may have prompted the Bayelsa state government ministry of environment to issue a preliminary oil spill protocol to warn oil companies that business as usual is over, and that “lives before oil” should now be the order of the day. One major constrain is that while the environment is in the Concurrent list, oil and gas and allied matters are the exclusive reserve of the federal government making the state seemingly handicapped in this regard.

#### Death by Fire: A Case of Agip equipment failure and negligence

Agip's facility at Azuzuama, 2015 followed almost the same pattern since it started oil operations in the Niger Delta. The area the recent incident occurred was muddy and in the creeks. Due to the difficult terrain, it was a Swamp Buggie which was used to convey the ERA/FoEN team and others [Agip, NOSDRA, Ministry of Environment and soldier] to and from the tragic site. During a recent visit to the site, ERA/FoEN observed that the difficult muddy terrain of the site of incident was really, not the type that can allow anyone to escape such an inferno even if the person had an opportunity. This is made worse by the rainy season and the swampy nature of the landscape. This must have resulted into the large number of deaths. There were no precautionary measures or planned escape route whatsoever. Photos of some of the victims before their corpses were removed showed that they were stuck in the mud; made so immobile by the difficult terrain. Besides, the site was relatively far from the community, thereby making help to be far off from victims.





14 persons lost their lives including a Nigerian soldier, official of the Bayelsa State Ministry of Environment, official of the regional NOSDRA office, Agip staff and community youths. Till date, the full list is yet to be made public. However, ERA/FoEN has obtained some of the names of those who died during the incident including the following:

Table 2: Agip's fire explosion victims.

N.	Name	Company	Date of death
1	Mupe Afoh Anthony	HSE-NAOC-Florina	July 9
2	Matthew Iyom	CRV Supervisor –NAOC Crest	July 9
3	Godspower Okorosei	Vowgas Welder	July 9
4	Promise Kpora	Vowgas Pipe Fitter	July 9
5	Michael Izeku	Vowgas Store Keeper	July 9
6	Longinus Dum	Vowgas HSE	July 9
7	Ositadinma Ugwu	NOSDRA (government official)	July 9
8	Engr. Theophilus Duabo	BYSMENV	July 9
9	Amos Omereji	Helper	July 9
10	Undo John	Vowgas Pegger	July 9
11	Epunumokumo Linus	Community Man	July 9
12	Corporal Audu Rikoto	Vowgas Gunboat	July 9
13	Eze Akpojota	Vowgas Swamp Buggie Mechanic	July 9

Source: Authors, various sources, 2015.



### Environmental Degradation and Destruction of Livelihoods

The main issues here are environmental degradation and security of lives and property from oil operations in the Niger Delta. Thus, the Azuzuama incident stands out as a metaphor of oil incidents by oil companies such as Agip operating in the region. Not only has NAOC been implicated in the burning of oil spill sites in the past, fire outbreaks during repair works has been commonly associated with the company. The records of such frequency are well known to Agip and the regulators.

Agip's Tebidabe-Clough Creek pipeline fire and explosion is clearly a case of negligence and severe damage due to equipment failure while attempting to clamp the leaking oil pipeline. First, it was sad to learn that the oil pipeline was not shut down while repair effort was on-going thereby placing production as more important than the safety of those working at the repair site.

ERA/FoEN also observed that substandard and crude methods were deployed for the clamping and the spot was yet to be covered with mud. There was no 'fire man' to arrest fire outbreak or precaution against fire in the team. The vegetation/trees and cash crops and livelihoods on both sides of the pipeline covering several hectares were severely burnt. The Swamp Buggie that conveyed the workers was badly burnt and now a relic, and will probably remain there forever to tell the sad tale.

The Testimonies below show one in a series of heart-aches, pain and misery due to Agip's oil operations in the Niger Delta region.





## TESTIMONIES FROM BEREAVED FAMILY MEMBERS:

### **Mr. Italia Clinton, native of Azuzuama community**

One of the young men who died as a result of that unfortunate fire incident was my nephew. He was named Epunumokumo Lynus Sampson Nume. He had two wives and children. One of the wives was pregnant too when he met his sad end on that Thursday. The night of the incident I received a call from one of the wives of the deceased.

The deceased was my elder sister's son. The wife called me around mid-night and informed me that her husband went to work on the pipeline with some persons and has not returned. She also said she heard there was an explosion and fire at the site in the bush. I tried to calm her by saying maybe her husband has run for his life and may be safe somewhere in the bush. Around 2am my elder sister called me again on phone. She told me that they have managed to visit the area but could not do much because of the night and so they will return to the bush in the morning to search.

To my greatest surprise, I received a call from my elder sister early in the morning and she told me the sad news; that her son had been burnt to ash from the explosion and fire which occurred as Vowgas Limited, a contracting firm to AGIP was repairing a ruptured spot on the pipeline. According to her, 19 of them went into the bush and 14 died. My nephew was one of the victims because he was working directly with them before the incident happened.

So, on Friday morning I had to go and meet my uncle, a retired police officer and we arranged for a speedboat to go down to the community [from Yenagoa]. When we got to Azuzuama, we witnessed nothing but grieving relations, some of them weeping uncontrollably too. The wife of my nephew and my elder sister [the mother of the deceased], were crying. I also joined in the weeping because it was a great loss to the family. It was later we held ourselves because the incident cannot be reversed. We saw the remains of the



dead victims before the company took them to Port Harcourt to put them in the morgue.

They were burnt beyond recognition.

**Asked if the government or Agip have approached the bereaved families or done anything in connection with the incident, Clinton said:**

Two days after we returned to Yenagoa, I heard over the radio, Governor Seriake Dickson saying that Agip has to do everything possible to ensure that the victims did not die in vain because they lost their lives while working on the company's facility. Yesterday (20th July, 2015) a representative of Vowgas called me and said that we should go to Port Harcourt today, for a discussion with the company.

They want to tell the family what they can do in respect of the deceased in terms of burial and compensation. So, we are going to Port Harcourt today. On the part of Agip, although it has not reached out directly to the bereaved families, the surveillance contractor in the area has been called and even yesterday we were in a meeting with the surveillance contractor. He informed us that the Security Manager in Agip called him with a view to getting the names of the two wives and children of the deceased. The second wife is pregnant right now. So, the surveillance contractor has sent the names to Agip. We are of the view that Agip is also trying to do something about it but they are yet to invite the family.

Since the incident has occurred and it cannot be reversed and, knowing that the fault came from the company, we are waiting on Agip to come up with what they think is the right and normal thing to do. It is from what the company says that we shall know the next line of action to take. Once Agip does the right thing, we shall have no option than accepting what has happened in good faith. To conclude, I appeal to the human and environmental rights NGOs to also come in to assist because these oil companies are very funny. They know the right thing to do, but may like to dodge. This is why we need the support of NGOs to prevail on them to do the right thing.

### **Eperenwei Paris, family member of victim**

In fact, the victim we are talking about was my cousin. His father is my uncle. In Ijaw tradition, when such a thing happens we do not use the corpse to trade with any company. But then, what is supposed to be done is that, the company has to come to the aid of the family. I say so because the deceased was a promising young man who was fending for his family. He had children and two wives; as Ijaw culture permits polygamy.

Even though our late brother was engaged by a local firm contracted by Agip, the Azuzuama man does not know any other person or company to hold responsible on this matter other than Agip. Agip and the contractor it hired should come to the aid of the bereaved family and the community at large. I say so because even the environment and economic trees have been affected. Up till this moment, Agip is yet to reach out to the community officially in relation to the incident. In terms of what we expect from Agip on the deceased, the company should make adequate arrangement to compensate the family, to take care of his wives and children. We are talking of the future. We do not know the plans of the deceased for his children, how he would have trained his children, talking about formal education. We knew him as a very hardworking young man in the family and he was the first son of his father too. As we speak, the family is in complete grief, very sorrowful moment. What I am saying in essence is that, Agip should try and make sure that these children left behind are adequately taken care of because, for now they are all in primary school and, one of the wives is pregnant. We in Azuzuama, we haven't encountered this kind of incident from any oil company within our territory before. But now that it has happened, Agip should try and do something positive to show that they are a truly responsible company.



**When asked as to what the deceased was doing for a living, Paris replied:**

*The young man was a photographer. He was a professional photographer and he had a studio. He was always contacted by people even from outside our community and clan for his services.*



*He was invited for his services in Ukubia, Korokorosei, Ondewari, Ogboinbiri, Lobia, Foropa, Koluama, etc. He was known to many people as a photographer and, that was what he did for a living. He was within his late thirties before he met his death.*

**Mr. Iboro Johnson Biekiri, from Olugboboro community in Olodiana clan, Southern Ijaw LGA**

*One of the victims of the explosion which happened at Azuzuama was my immediate younger brother's son. He also died in that incident and his name is Ndukeduomene John Biekiri. I cannot say exactly how old he was when he died but he should be in his early twenties. The deceased had a wife and one child. I was at Amassoma on that day of the incident when my son called me from Yenagoa and informed me he heard such an incident occurred at Azuzuama. He promptly informed me that same evening that my younger brother's son was also at the site when the explosion happened and that, he has died too. That*

*was how the news got to me. The family has been invited to come to Agip office in Port Harcourt. I confirmed that last night and I am certain some members of the family are going today. Our expectation is that, although it has happened and there is nothing we can do to return the life, Agip should compensate the immediate family for the loss.*

From other sources whose names ERA/FoEN cannot mention, we gather that:

**A source at Twon-Brass:** What I heard from an Agip Official here at Brass was that at the time of the repair work which led to the explosion/fire, the flowline was not shut down. That must have led to the unfortunate incident.

A source at the Ministry of Environment: It appears they did not neutralize the immediate environment with the necessary chemicals/forms before carrying out the job. From what I heard, as they were working fire came up. Although the fire was not a big fire then, instruction was given to the operator of the Swamp Buggy to scoop mud and stamp at the point where the fire was raging around the oil bearing pipe. When the Swamp Buggy Operator brought the mud [which had crude oil too] and dropped at the very spot where he was directed with a view to quench the fire the next thing was EXPLOSION and a huge fire.

**Another ministry of environment source:**

*I learnt the line was not shut down when the repairs was going on. Besides, I also heard the very first day they went to the site too there was a fire incident [on Wednesday]. But, the fireman was able to fight the fire and put it out. Due to the impacts of that on the eyes of the fireman, he refused to accompany them the second day [being Thursday]. And, that was the day of the explosion.*

## **DUABO: GENTLE HELPER THAT OUR COUNTRY FAILED TO HELP**

by Iniruo Wills, Bayelsa State Commissioner for Environment

Duabo's departure is the most painful experience of my entire working life.

It was hard to escape Duabo's charm, deep humility, easy friendliness, and infectious enthusiasm. He was such a handsome personality. You just had to like and admire his way. I didn't get to thank him nearly enough for all his support in our work, especially in my attempt to make some impact against all odds, since the nearly one and a half years I was assigned to lead the Bayelsa State Ministry of Environment. It teaches us the painful lesson that if we don't say our thank you's fast enough we may never get another chance to say them.

Duabo was one of the quiet but inspiring pivots of our ongoing multi-faceted project of ramping up enforcement of environmental standards, preparing sound grounds and documentation to support a planned slew of strategic environmental litigation by the Bayelsa State Government, and organizing vivid evidence based advocacies aimed at persuading and if necessary shocking all key actors - corporate polluters, community folks, state and federal government authorities, and other influence groups - into according environmental protection its utterly missing pride of place, whether in "Nigerian" oilfield practice, in community norms, or in government budgeting and actual funding.

It was for one of such advocacies that we stayed up together in the office on the 26th of last May, until about 3am the following day, along with five other senior officers of the Ministry, finalizing an "Appraisal of the Socio-Economic and Security Threats of the Ijaw Environment" to be presented by me that next day. It was with the same vigour that, when I so assigned him to do, he coordinated the collation of the first pictorial database of environmental pollution in the Ministry, using over one thousand photos of the wicked forms of petroleum pollution, mostly sourced from the local office of Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth (Nigeria).

We wanted to be able to saturate any screen with images of this crude beast of pollution that is dangerously deleting life and livelihoods from our communities. One of the last days on which I saw him, he popped in to assure me - beaming with his particular smile - that he was practically done and would hand me the photo trove in a few days. He knew he was making me happy with that. I thought I would show him my full thanks when he would eventually bring it. But those few days have been punctuated by fate.

Earlier on, last March, we went together on a well attended Joint Investigation Visit to a major oil spill at a Shell Petroleum well head. He was the life of that eventful six-hour trip. He was the first to confirm to me, keeping me in suspense for two long seconds, that the cause of the spill was equipment failure. When Shell Petroleum came up with the usual antics to avoid accountability for the impact of that massive spill, it was only natural for us to put him in charge of preparing that case, working subsequently with the Honourable Attorney-General, for legal action.





Duabo's passion might have been at its peak in setting out the initial technical grounds for seeking justice on that particular spill. Amongst many other aspects of that task, he worked hard to produce a calculation that disproved the low spill volume claimed by Shell Petroleum. We remember fondly the times in my office when he would come and excitedly take us through it, with his brainy Director, Engr Japhet Bank, agreeing most of the way. I haven't stopped thinking of that computation as "the Duabo Formula".

But he later discovered he was not done yet on the score. He wrote in from his last tour of field duty that he had been making inquiries about that particular spill "since I came to Ogboinbiri on our routine JIV". After saying the fruits of his inquiries, he concluded.

"The 3days [of uncontained crude oil flow/spill] we are even looking at is very incorrect. Then the 15 hours SHELL is claiming is too much of a nauseating lie for us to condone. We should prepare a new report and estimate the spilled crude upwards,sir."

I responded: "Thanks. Proceed with the report ... and present to me."

He didn't get the chance to present the report. Six days later, we lost him and thirteen other precious souls to another crude oil spill management disaster, this time along Nigerian Agip Oil Company's pipeline in Azuzuama Community.

The way in which our gentle colleague and super affable friend, Duabo Theophilus, was taken from us left us in a blaze of shock, a rude confirmation of the worst fears and alarms that we - Duabo included - have repeatedly sounded from the Bayelsa State Ministry of Environment: that as a result of the extremely reckless and callous way in which the Nigerian petroleum industry operates and the zero practical (not verbal) attention paid to environmental protection by Nigerian Governments, Bayelsa State (indeed the oil-polluted Niger Delta region) is a huge series of fatal fires and explosions waiting to erupt.

At current rates hovering around one thousand oil and gas spills a year, to say nothing of continual gas flaring, Bayelsa State's environment and communities are practically immersed in hydrocarbon pollution. The causes range from the operators' direct equipment/operational failure to frequent pipeline vandalism and oil theft by third parties, which are still indirectly the operational or system failure of the oil producing corporations and the Nigerian State - via NNPC, their joint venture partner - for their combined failure to operate safely and effectively protect their facilities, free of harm to innocent host communities and individuals. Poorly resourced Federal and State Government regulators have to put themselves at risk daily to monitor the management of these odd thousand spill disasters a year, as Duabo and his federal/NOSDRA colleague (Osita Ugwu) did on that fateful Thursday 9th of July, 2015. These combined monitoring teams have little or no firefighting or rescue readiness at their disposal.

Tragically, the Nigerian oil industry and successive Nigerian governments have cared too little to dedicate adequate executive attention and funding to environmental and safety management / capacity building.

. Nine years after the enactment of the NOSDRA Act, the National Oil Spill Control and Response Centre which the Act expressly requires to be established is still a dream, NOSDRA as an agency is still not funded in any meaningful way, and the agency's head office is still in Abuja, thousands of kilometres away from the daily oil spills in Bayelsa State or any other oil producing/oil-polluted state.

Duabo and the rest of the Azuzuama 14 should not be just another set of statistics in the perennial diary of environmental pathologies, the ENI/Agip Group's criminally low standards, the NNPC's pretentious indifference, the Nigerian oil establishment's wickedness in the Niger Delta, the deep dysfunctions of successive Governments and how the Nigerian State continues to woefully fail our environment, our communities and our finest officers like Duabo. We owe our departed colleagues two things at the least. One is to ensure the fullest possible investigations to know exactly what happened that day and ask for accountability. The second is to all raise our voices, regardless of location or origin, to insist on a radical change from the slow genocide or ecocide that our national addiction to oil rents and royalties is exposing us ALL to. It is the only way we can retrieve a modicum of meaning from this needless tragedy.

Duabo, we and our work will miss your diligence, your passion, your intense curiosity, your constant smile and your instinctive sincerity. Rest in the Lord's bosom, our colleague, friend and brother. And thank you for all your support.

#### **ERA/FoEN DEMANDS:**

1. Federal and state government should set up immediate Investigative Panel to identify the cause of fire and explosion with a view to put in place all necessary precautionary steps in future repairs; review oil spill contingency plan and protocols, and put safety above every other thing; including production and profit.
2. State and Federal governments should ensure that international standards in oil pipeline clamping and procedures be adhered to so that oil industry be made safer for all stakeholders; including oil industry workers, regulators, communities.
3. Agip oil company be brought to book following the equipment failure and substandard mode of clamping and procedures
4. Agip to adequately compensate the bereaved families with the sum of US\$2 million each.
5. The Immediate revisit of the Ozochi Tragedy incident and the need to adequately compensate the families of the victims roasted.
6. Agip to provide public response to the fire explosion incident, conduct immediate clean up and environmental remediation and compensation for destroyed livelihoods.
7. Set up precautionary measures and should engage only competent firms as contractors to carry out such clamping jobs that require high levels of professionalism.
8. Since there is consistence in trends of explosions and reckless deaths, revocation of Agip's operating license is now at stake.

## **About ERA/FoEN**

### **Brief History**

Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria (ERA/FoEN) was founded on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January, 1993 as a Nigerian Advocacy Non- governmental organisation, concerned with the protection, preservation and conservation of the natural environment, and the sustainable exploitation of its natural resources. ERA/FoEN is the Nigerian chapter of the Friends of the Earth International (FoEI) the world environmental justice federation campaigning to protect the environment and to create sustainable societies. ERA is dedicated to the democratisation of development, defence of human ecosystems in terms of human rights and promotion of environmentally responsible governmental. Commercial, community and individual practise in Nigeria through the empowerment of local people. ERA/FoEN is the co-ordinating NGO in Africa for Oilwatch International and the current host of the secretariat of the Oilwatch International .ERA is a prize winner of the Sophie award (1998) and also the recipient of the Bloomberg award.

ERA seeks global objectives and collaborates with national and international partners in the pursuit of its global objectives.

### **Mandate and Objectives**

ERA derives its mandate from Article 24 of the African Charter of Human and People's Right: That "All people shall have the right to (a) generally satisfactory environment favourable to their development". ERA seeks to achieve a number of objectives in the area of protection of the environment and democratisation of development. It is also committed to the preservation of human ecosystem within the framework of human rights, and the promotion of sustainable and responsible management of natural resources and the environment.

### **Areas of Focus**

**Food Sovereignty**

**Democracy Outreach programme**

**Energy and Extractives**

**Corporate Accountability and Environmental Health**

**Forest and Biodiversity**

**For further information contact:**

**[eraction@eraction.org](mailto:eraction@eraction.org) ; [gloryline2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gloryline2000@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Godwin Uyi Ojo , +234 8135208465**