



The Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Limited
Shell Industrial Area, Rumuobiakani
P O Box 263, Port Harcourt
Rivers State, Nigeria
Internet: www.shellnigeria.com

Amnesty International,
International Secretariat,
Peter Benenson House,
1 Easton Street London WC1X 0DW,
United Kingdom.

March 9, 2018

Our ref: SPDC-2018-03-00000052

Dear Seema Joshi,

OPERATIONS OF THE SHELL PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY OF NIGERIA LIMITED

We are in receipt of your letter dated March 2, 2018 addressed to the Chief Executive Officer of Royal Dutch Shell regarding the operations of The Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Ltd (SPDC) in the Niger Delta.

As operator of a joint venture, where the government-owned Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation has a majority interest, SPDC continues to work with federal and state government agencies, communities and civil society to create a safe operating environment.

The allegations in your letter against SPDC are false, without merit and fail to recognise the complex environment in which we operate where security, a sole prerogative of government, remains a major concern with persisting incidents of criminality, kidnapping, vandalism, threats from self-described militant groups, etc. We value our joint venture partners, host communities, NGOs, and other key stakeholders and continue to work with them to address the challenges in our operating environment.

We note your comment that "Shell may be more transparent than other companies operating in the Nigeria Delta, since it publishes JIV forms and other information." This level of transparency has not come about by chance, but demonstrates our commitment to creating awareness and enhancing collaboration with key stakeholders on oil spill response and clean-up processes and deepening understanding of the complex and challenging environment in which SPDC operates.

SPDC has taken every opportunity to focus attention on the detrimental impact of oil theft and sabotage on the economy and environment in engagements with the media, government officials, diplomats and community people. Just last year, SPDC commenced a programme on two radio stations in Port Harcourt, the capital of Rivers State, offering a rare platform for people to address the many issues confronting the Niger Delta, among them oil spills and pollution. The programme is titled *Canvas – The Niger Delta Roundtable*.

SPDC, in collaboration with government regulators, responds swiftly to spill incidents as quickly as it can and cleans up spills from its facilities regardless of the cause. We regularly test our emergency spill response procedures and capability to ensure staff and contractors can respond rapidly to an incident. However, response to spills, clean-up and remediation depend on access to the spill site and ultimately on the security of personnel and equipment while work is ongoing.

You may wish to read our sustainability reports for more information on our operations.

Finally, I would like to reiterate our commitment to carrying out operations in line with best practice in a responsible and environment-friendly manner.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

For: The Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Limited


Igo Welu
General Manager, External Relations

09/03/2018