

Communique of the Strategy and Mobilization Meeting of the Pan Niger Delta Action Conference/Council (PANDAC) at the Samsy Hotel, Benin City, Edo State on Sunday, August 28, 2005

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The Pan Niger Delta Action Conference/Council (PANDAC) held a strategy and mobilization meeting in Benin City on Sunday, August 28, 2005. The meeting was attended by leaders and members of representative nationality organizations, militant formations, youths and civil society organisations from the Niger Delta region, including the Niger Delta Peoples Volunteers Force (NDPVF), Chikoko Movement, Great Commonwealth of the Niger Delta (GCND), Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP), Ijaw Youth Council (IYC), Itsekiri National Youth Council, National Youth Council of Ogoni People (NYCOP), Civil Liberties Organisation (CLO), Niger Delta Women for Justice (NDWJ), Congress for the Liberation of Ikwerre People (COLIP), Supreme Egbesu Assembly (SEA), Delta Stakeholders Today Peoples Council, Socialist Workers Party, Federated Niger Delta Ijaw Communities (FINDIC), National Association of Ijaw Female Students, People with Disability Action Network (PEDANET), among others.

The meeting, which discussed popular and militant alternatives in the struggle to change the political structure of the Niger Delta and Nigeria in favour of the suffering peoples of the Niger Delta region, and modalities for participation and defence of the Peoples' National Conference being organised by the Pro-National Conference Organisations (PRONACO) resolved and agreed as follows:

ON THE PRONACO CONFERENCE

- a. To mobilise the peoples of the Niger Delta area to actively participate in the Peoples' national Conference being organised by PRONACO, as the last peaceful option for the resolution of the contradictions of the Nigerian State in favour of our exploited peoples;
- b. To organise a Sovereign Niger Delta Peoples' Conference before the Peoples National Conference;
- c. The PRONACO Conference should be a mobile parliament of Nigerian Peoples. Therefore, the sessions of the conference should be convened, on a rotational basis, in venues in each of the 6 geo-political zones in the area now called Nigeria to allow for broad participation by representative organisations from all parts of the colony.

ON THE STATE OF THE COLONY

- a. The meeting condemned the recent increase of prices of petroleum fuels by the Obasanjo regime as a policy that will further impoverish the Nigerian peoples. The meeting noted that the peoples of the Niger Delta living in creeks and coastal communities, who always pay higher prices for petroleum products, would be the worst victims. PANDAC, therefore, resolved to mobilise peoples of the Niger Delta to support popular resistance to fuel price increases and the misrule of the Obasanjo regime;
- b. Meeting condemned the mismanagement and continuing looting of resources of the Niger Delta peoples by transnational corporations and the Nigerian State, and noted that the minimal revenue accruing to the Niger Delta States is being looted by the very irresponsible Governors, Local Government Chairmen and NDDC directors that have left the Niger Delta underdeveloped and neglected, while pursuing projects of personal aggrandisement. Meeting noted that the politicians governing the Niger Delta region are agents of the oppressive Nigerian state;
- c. The meeting agreed that the solution to the plunder and underdevelopment of the Niger Delta is total and complete Self-Determination for the peoples, as against revenue-by-derivation to governors and NDDC colonial administrators;
- d. PANDAC calls on the Peoples of Nigeria to act towards overthrowing the current dictatorship and replacing it with a provisional Government of National Unity and a National Conference that will restructure Nigeria and restore sovereignty to its peoples.

Signed for PANDAC:

Asume Isaac Osuaka
Chikoko Movement

Alhaji Mujaheed Asari Dokubo
Niger Delta Peoples Volunteer Force (NDPVF)

Uche Okwukwu
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