



# NIGERIA LABOUR CONGRESS

MOTTO: LABOUR CREATES WEALTH

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## **TEXT OF THE PRESS BRIEFING BY THE NIGERIA LABOUR CONGRESS (NLC) HELD ON WEDNESDAY, THE 28<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024 ON THE TWO - DAY NATIONWIDE PROTEST AGAINST THE CRISIS OF SURVIVAL AND HARDSHIP IN NIGERIA**

**Gentlemen of the Press!** as you are all aware, the National Executive Council (NEC) of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) convened on Friday, February 16, 2024, and took some decisive action in response to the widespread suffering and hunger experienced by Nigerians due to government policies, particularly the hike in the price of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) and the floating of the Naira.

In a unanimous decision, the NEC ordered a 2-Day Nationwide Protest to demonstrate solidarity with the masses and workers across Nigeria, expressing outrage over the adverse effects of these policies. The NEC after closely monitoring the execution of the first day of the protest, commended Nigerians, affiliates, state councils, workers, and civil society allies for their resolute participation.

Acknowledging the overwhelming success of the first day of the protest in achieving its key objectives, the NEC decided to suspend street actions for the second day and ordered that the protest continues nationwide through simultaneous Press Conferences across all states of the federation, including the National Headquarters.

Furthermore, the NEC extended the ultimatum to the government by an additional 7 days, now expiring on March 13, 2024. During this period, the government is expected to implement all agreements reached on October 2, 2023, and address other demands presented during the nationwide protest.

It is important that members of the Public are made aware of the grievous threats against the leadership of the NLC aimed at intimidating and harassing us into abandoning our choice of democratic expressions through the nationwide protests. We were threatened with all manners of consequences that would be meted out to us if we went ahead with the protest. We were not however deterred as lifting the heavy yoke of suffering upon Nigerian workers and masses left us with no other choice than to press on.

During yesterday's protest rally in Abuja, we had hard evidence of the importation of agent provocateurs who were mobilized to the protest routes and grounds to cause violence and unleash mayhem against peacefully assembled and protesting Nigerians. God is however always a step ahead of the enemies of workers and Nigerian people. That was also one of the reasons we had to restructure the second day of the nationwide protest.

As we address this Press briefing, all the major routes to our Headquarters here in Abuja have become militarized. This level of intimidation is designed to suffocate and muzzle the voices of the citizens so that we can surrender the Civic space to retrogressive forces of the society.

Today, is the 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC). The recognition of that also conditioned our decision to rearrange our activities for Day 2 to allow us observe our birthday in a solemn assembly in our various Secretariats across the nation.

In conclusion, we want to reiterate that if the government fails to comply within the specified timeframe, the NEC will convene again to decide on further lines of action. The NLC remains steadfast in its commitment to defending and promoting the interests of Nigerian workers and the downtrodden masses. We will not succumb to intimidation. We will not yield to harassment. We will keep the interests of Nigerian workers and people at the heart of our actions all of the time.



**Comrade Joe Ajaero**  
**President**

