






# SECTION ON PUBLIC INTEREST AND DEVELOPMENT LAW NIGERIA BAR ASSOCIATION NATIONAL SECRETARIAT



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July 30, 2024

FED. MIN. OF JUSTICE  
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13 AUG 2024

HAGF REGISTRY

Honourable Attorney-General of the  
Federation & Minister of Justice

**Prince Lateef O. Fagbemi, SAN**  
Hon. Attorney-General and Minister of Justice,  
Federal Ministry of Justice,  
Shehu Shagari Way, Maitama.  
Abuja.

## **OBJECTION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. YAKUBU CHONOKO MAIKYAU, SAN, PRESIDENT OF THE NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION (NBA) AS A MEMBER OF THE PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION (PCA)**

The Nigerian Bar Association Section on Public Interest and Development Law (NBA-SPIDEL) is one of the three sections of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA). The mandate of NBA-SPIDEL is to promote the rule of law, defend the rights of the people, and intervene in matters of public interest that affect the Nigerian people.

The NBA-SPIDEL is mandated to ensure that the actions of government and its agencies conform with the rule of law. The NBA-SPIDEL aims to promote development, advance human rights, and safeguard the public interest.

On its part, the NBA is the leading civil society organization in Nigeria. The motto of the NBA is "promoting the rule of law." The NBA relies on NBA-SPIDEL to discharge its public interest mandate in particular.

Mr. Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau, the subject of this petition, is a legal practitioner, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria, and the current President of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA). It is the reasonable expectation of NBA members, the NBA-SPIDEL and Nigerians that Mr. Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau, SAN should be guided by respect for the rule of law and particularly by the objectives of the Nigerian Bar Association in the discharge of his duties. Mr. Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau, SAN is expected to exhibit and maintain a very high standard of conduct, professionalism, and respect for the integrity of Nigeria's courts and the judicial process.

illegal "NBA-SPIDEL Annual Conference." It is evident that Mr. Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau, SAN has no respect howsoever for the rule of law and for court orders. Accordingly, Mr. Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau, SAN lacks the capacity (as a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration) to dispense justice in line with the rule of law.

The conduct of Mr. Maikyau so far as outlined above clearly demonstrates that he lacks such highest moral reputation expected of a person to represent Nigeria as member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration as required by the relevant charter of the Court.

### **C. OUR HUMBLE DEMANDS**


Consistent with the foregoing, the NBA-SPIDEL Governing Council (for themselves and on behalf of the Nigerian people as well as in the interest of citizens of all such nationalities that may have their cases referred to the Permanent Court of Arbitration) hereby calls on Your Excellency to kindly recall Mr. Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau, SAN as one of Nigeria's representatives to the Permanent Court of Arbitration, his confirmation notwithstanding.

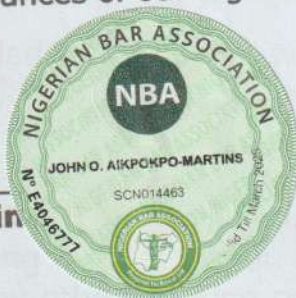
We believe that Your Excellency was not aware of the foregoing facts prior to the unfortunate nomination, hence this objection is addressed to you in the first instance.


Please be informed however, that should Your Excellency fail, refuse or neglect to immediately recall Mr. Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau SAN, you may leave us with no other option than to vigorously pursue this petition directly with the Permanent Court of Arbitration and all related international bodies for necessary action.

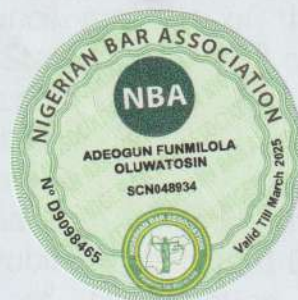
Please accept the assurances of our highest regard and esteem

Respectfully,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**John Aikpokpo-Martins**  
(Chairman)



  
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**Funmi Adeogun**  
(Secretary)



*John Aikpokpo-Martins - Chairman Dr. Princess Frank-Chukwuani - Vice Chairman Funmi Adeogun - Secretary*

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