2027: HURIWA Knocks Tinubu for Blaming Opposition for Hunger, Ignoring Terrorists' Captives



The Human Rights Writers Association of Nigeria (HURIWA) has condemned President Bola Tinubu for blaming opposition parties for hunger and poverty while Nigerians continue to face deadly attacks, mass kidnappings and a crippling cost-of-living crisis. HURIWA says Tinubu's campaign flag-off in Kaduna exposed a disturbing disconnect between the President's re-election ambitions and the urgent realities confronting millions of Nigerians who struggle daily to survive economic hardship and widespread insecurity.

The association challenges Tinubu to explain why he chose to trade blame with political opponents instead of presenting Nigerians with a clear, time-bound and measurable plan to defeat terrorists, dismantle kidnapping networks and rescue citizens languishing in captivity.

HURIWA says the President's decision to launch his re-election campaign in the North offered him an opportunity to confront the security emergency ravaging the region. Instead, the association argues, Tinubu used the occasion to blame previous political leaders for hunger and poverty without adequately addressing the immediate fears of citizens living under constant threats of violence. HURIWA demands answers on abducted Nigerians. The association asks the President to explain what concrete measures his administration will deploy to rescue Nigerians reportedly held captive by terrorists and kidnappers in Borno, Kwara, Niger and other affected states. HURIWA says Nigerians cannot afford another campaign season filled with promises while families continue to wait desperately for the return of abducted relatives and communities remain vulnerable to armed attacks. It demands specific security targets, clear rescue strategies, stronger intelligence operations and accountability for security failures. HURIWA insists that the government must measure its performance by the lives it protects, the captives it rescues and the communities it makes safe.

The association warns that political rallies and displays of party strength cannot substitute for the constitutional responsibility to protect lives and property.

HURIWA: Tinubu must own the economic crisis HURIWA also rejects Tinubu's attempt to shift responsibility for hunger and poverty onto previous administrations and opposition parties. At the Kaduna rally, the President declared: “They created the hunger. They created the poverty. We are trying to eradicate it.” HURIWA says the statement amounts to an attempt to escape accountability for the consequences of the policies his administration has implemented since assuming office in May 2023. The association argues that whatever economic difficulties Tinubu inherited, his government must answer for the effects of its own decisions, including petrol subsidy removal, exchange-rate reforms and the repeated increases in the cost of essential goods and services.

HURIWA says Nigerians now contend with soaring food prices, expensive transportation, rising electricity costs and unaffordable medicines, while small businesses struggle to absorb higher operating expenses. It questions how the Federal Government has utilized the savings from petrol subsidy removal and demands a transparent account of the funds, the projects they have financed and the tangible benefits delivered to ordinary citizens.

HURIWA says the government cannot continually invoke economic reforms as justification for hardship without demonstrating when and how those reforms will improve household incomes, reduce poverty and restore purchasing power. The association insists that improved public finances and investor confidence, which the administration cites as achievements, must translate into measurable improvements in the lives of Nigerians.

HURIWA challenges APC to accept responsibility HURIWA says the APC cannot absolve itself of responsibility for Nigeria's economic and security challenges after governing the country since 2015. The association argues that the administrations of former President Muhammadu Buhari and Tinubu must answer for their respective policy decisions and records rather than blame political opponents for the consequences Nigerians experience today. It challenges Tinubu to explain what his government has achieved to reduce poverty, protect vulnerable households, improve access to healthcare and restore economic opportunities for millions of citizens. HURIWA says the President must stop treating legitimate complaints about hunger as political attacks and recognize them as urgent demands for accountability from citizens whose livelihoods have come under severe pressure. The association maintains that Nigerians do not need political finger-pointing. They need affordable food, accessible healthcare, reliable electricity, reasonably priced transportation and security that allows farmers, traders, workers and businesses to operate without fear. Security and welfare must come before campaign rhetoric. HURIWA demands that Tinubu prioritize the rescue of abducted Nigerians, intensify operations against terrorists and kidnappers, strengthen intelligence coordination and ensure that security agencies account for operational failures. It also calls on the Federal Government to publish transparent information on the deployment of subsidy savings and strengthen targeted interventions for households bearing the heaviest burden of economic reforms. HURIWA says the President must explain how his administration intends to reverse the decline in purchasing power, contain the rising cost of essential goods and services, and prevent further loss of lives to armed groups. The association warns that Nigerians will scrutinize the administration's record on security, economic welfare and public accountability as the 2027 presidential election approaches. HURIWA insists that a re-election campaign must not become an escape route from responsibility. Tinubu must confront the insecurity and economic hardship facing Nigerians, account for his government's decisions and present credible solutions rather than blame his political rivals.