

Combating High-Profile Corruption in Transitional¹ Societies: Overview of Experiences from Some African Countries

Emeka Emmanuel Okafor

Department of Sociology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria
Telephone: +234(0)8023566654, E-mail: eemfor@yahoo.com

KEYWORDS Corruption. Transition. Development. Transparency. Neo-colonial Economy

ABSTRACT The Transition of African societies from traditional to modernity has presented some peculiar problems. One of such problems is corruption. Corruption has been the bane of African socio-economic and political development. Against this background most Africa countries have set up anti-corruption agencies to tackle this cankerworm. This paper examines the experiences of some African countries such as Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Malawi and Kenya in their fight against high-profile corruption and argued that these countries have achieved varying degrees of successes in this regard. Situating high-profile corruption within the context of neo-colonial economy theoretical framework, the paper argued that this form of corruption is a carry over from colonial experience as a result of quest by emerging economies of Africa to develop in line with the western capitalism thereby pressuring individuals and groups who occupied various political positions to accumulate material wealth. The paper therefore concludes by arguing that the fight against corruption can be won if the institutions and agencies created for this purpose are made non-political, independent, deepened and strengthened by relevant legislations by the various African countries.