

PRESS STATEMENT

LAGOS, TUESDAY, 19TH DECEMBER, 2017.

Dangote Cement Plc. (DANGCEM, "DCP"), Africa's largest cement producer, has been made aware of several misleading media publications one of which was captioned "A Cry for Help: Wanton Abuse of Power by a Serving Minister Geared at Sabotaging Operations of BUA Cement"; wherein BUA International Limited ("BUA") alleged an abuse of power by the Federal Ministry of Mines and Steel Development ("Ministry") for the benefit of DCP, and made other unwarranted and unfounded claims.

DCP wishes to draw attention to a subsequent publication released in the Punch newspaper by the Ministry on the 8th of December 2017, clearly stating their position on the letter by BUA and addressing the issues raised therein. Please see attached copy of the Press Release by the Ministry for your information and reference.

DCP hereby confirms that the issues being raised are subject of litigation by several parties. The details of the cases are stated below, and may be tracked for further reference:

- Suit No. FHC/B/CS/7/2016
BUA International Limited & BUA Cement vs. Hon. Minister of Mines & Steel Development and Dangote Cement Plc. (holding at the Benin Judicial Division).
- Suit No. FHC/LKJ/CS/25/2017
HRH Alj. Mohammed Otaru Adeika & 4 Others vs. Aico Ado Ibrahim & Co. Ltd and the Federal Ministry of Mines & Steel Development (holding at the Lokoja Judicial Division).

The ongoing suits shall be resolved by the courts in accordance with their role under the Constitution and laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Further details on the matter will be published as appropriate.

Signature:


MAHMUD KAZAURE
Company Secretary

ABOUT DANGOTE CEMENT PLC:

Dangote Cement Plc. is Africa's leading cement producer with nearly 46 million tonnes per annum (Mta) capacity across Africa. A fully integrated PLCquarry-to-customer producer, we have a production capacity of 29.25Mta in our home market, Nigeria. Our Obajana Plant in Kogi State, Nigeria is the largest in Africa with 13.25Mta capacity across four (4) lines; our Ibese Plant in Ogun State has four (4) cement lines with a combined installed capacity of 12Mta; and

our Gboko Plant in Benue State has 4Mta. Through our recent investments, Dangote Cement has eliminated Nigeria's independence on imported cement and has transformed the nation into a net exporter of cement, serving neighbouring countries.

In addition, we have invested almost \$3B to build manufacturing plants and import/grinding terminals across Africa. Our operations are in Cameroon (1.5Mta clinker grinding), Congo (1.5Mta), Ghana (1.5Mta import), Ethiopia (2.5Mta), Senegal (1.5Mta) Sierra Leone (0.7Mta import) South Africa (2.7Mta), Tanzania (3.0Mta), Zambia (1.5Mta).

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

MINISTRY OF MINES AND STEEL DEVELOPMENT

PRESS RELEASE

OUR POSITION ON BUA GROUP'S MISLEADING PUBLICATION

The attention of the Ministry of Mines and Steel Development has been drawn to a misleading publication signed by the Executive Chairman of the BUA Group Abdulsamad Rabiu, published in several newspapers as an open letter to the President and titled: "A cry for Help: Wanton Abuse of Power By a Serving Minister Geared at Sabotaging Operations of BUA Cement."

The Ministry regards the publication as nothing more than an attempt by the cement company to blackmail the Ministry into granting a free pass for illegal operations.

While the Ministry does not intend to join issues with the BUA Group which has an enviable history of industrial performance, we deem it appropriate, however, to state the facts for the purpose of enlightening members of the public as follows:

- i) In the records of the Ministry of Mines and Steel Development and the Nigerian Mining Cadastre Office (MCO), the BUA Group, does not have a mining lease over the contentious site No. 2541ML. Therefore, its mining activities there are illegal.
- ii) The Ministry stands by the Stop Work Order issued to the BUA Group and signed by the Permanent Secretary, dated 17th October 2017. The letter was issued after thorough investigations confirmed that the BUA Group was indeed engaging in illegal mining of marble/limestone at a mine pit located on Geographical Coordinates N07°21'47.4" E06°26'51.8", while the Run-of-Mine (ROM) is stockpiled at an area with geographical coordinates N07°21'48.4"; E06°26'37.2"
- iii) Clarification provided by the Mining Cadastre Office shows that the coordinates of the Mine pit and ROM stockpile area fall wholly within the area of mining Lease No 2541ML belonging to Messrs Dangote Industries Limited.
- iv) The Ministry had earlier in 2015 issued a Stop Work Order on this same disputed site but the BUA Group disregarded the order and went ahead with its illegal mining activities, under heavy cover of armed soldiers, policemen and men of the Civil Defence Corps.
- v) The Management of BUA also resisted the enforcement of the latest Stop Work Order issued on October 17th, 2017 using a combination of armed militia, soldiers and policemen to obstruct the team from the ministry in effecting the Stop Work Order.
- vi) While BUA Group in its publication admitted the fact that a suit over the ownership of the site was pending in a court of competent jurisdiction, the Group, however continued with its illegal mining activities on the site, which in itself is subjudiced to both the court and the Mining Act 2007, which guides mining activities in the country.
- vii) While the Ministry restates its commitment to promoting local and global investments in the Nigerian mining sector, it has always maintained that due process must be followed, especially in line with the provisions of the Minerals and Mining Act 2007. This, we shall not compromise.

Signed:
Mohammed Abass
Permanent Secretary