**Press Statement: 9th September, 2013.**

**NCICC CONDEMNS KENYAN PARLIAMENT’S DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM ICC**

Nigeria Coalition for the International Criminal Court (NCICC) condemns the decision of the Kenyan Parliament for Kenya to withdraw as a member of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

The Jubilee Alliance, a coalition of political parties supporting the Kenyan President, Uhuru Kenyatta and Deputy President William Ruto, passed a motion on Thursday, 5th September, 2013 to withdraw from the ICC, with a legislation to follow soon. This comes as the trial of the Kenyan deputy president, Williams Ruto, is set to open before the ICC in The Hague, on atrocities committed during Kenya’s 2008 post-election violence, scheduled to start on the 9th of September, 2013.

This act by the Kenyan government is a move to protect government officials involved in committing atrocities against its citizens who suffered from post-election violence in 2008 and are awaiting justice.

Kenya will be the first state party to leave the ICC and this will be a setback for the ICC in the fight against impunity in Africa. The Hague/New York have said that this will not affect the upcoming trials of the Kenyan President, Uhuru Kenyatta and Deputy President William Ruto.

NCICC strongly condemns this action and sees it as an act by the Kenyan government to promote impunity by protecting the president and deputy president who are involved in committing atrocities against its citizens. NCICC also approves the decision of the ICC to continue with the trials against the Kenyan President and the Deputy President.

**Chino Obiagwu**, Chair Steering committee of NCICC

**Dr Abiola Akiyode**, Vice Chair NCICC

**Oby Nwankwo**, Treasurer NCICC