PRESS STATEMENT BY THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ALL PROGRESSIVES CONGRESS (APC), IPOKIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ON THE AFFAIRS OF THE PARTY IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND MR. HUNYE ABAYOMI SEMAKO

Protocol:

Gentlemen of the press, distinguished party leaders, and good people of Ogun State and Nigeria as a whole,

We are gathered here today to address the affairs of our great party, the All Progressives Congress (APC), in Ipokia Local Government, and to set the records straight on issues that have been deliberately misrepresented by individuals seeking to cause confusion within our ranks.

1. DISASSOCIATION FROM MR. ABAYOMI HUNYE SEMAKO

First and foremost, the leadership of our party wishes to emphatically disassociate itself from the shenanigans of one Mr. Abayomi Hunye Semako. We state without equivocation that his actions, utterances, and recent antics do not, in any way, represent the position of the APC in Ipokia Local Government, nor do they reflect the collective will of our members.

2. OUR UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR YAYI

Our party and its members have consistently maintained unified and unwavering support for the candidature of Senator Solomon Olamilekan Adeola, fondly called YAYI, as the gubernatorial candidate of our great party. We firmly believe in his vision and leadership. His record of infrastructural development and human capital empowerment in all facets of governance is unprecedented and legendary. We are convinced that his acceptance across Ogun State gives genuine hope that Yewa land will finally break the jinx, after fifty years of the creation of Ogun State, and produce a Governor who will prioritise the welfare of our people.

3. THE POLITICAL CONDUCT OF MR. HUNYE ABAYOMI SEMAKO

It is in light of this conviction that we must address the activities of Mr. Abayomi Hunye Semako. We wish to make it categorically clear that Mr. Hunye has never enjoyed an atom of support from Tube Ward or Ipokia Local Government at any point in his political trajectory. His stock in trade is to purchase nomination forms at every election cycle, not to contest a free and fair primary, but solely as a means of negotiation for political appointments. This is done without consultation with the Chairman of Tube Ward, where he claims to emanate, let alone the leadership of our Local Government. We wonder how any aspiring politician would seek political office without the knowledge of his Ward Chairman. This conduct displays a flagrant disregard for the party's structure and constitution.

Indeed, since 2011, Mr. Hunye's ploy has been a consistent pattern of obtaining nomination forms and then requesting negotiations—a scheme that has yielded him appointments as Chairman of OSAMCA, Commissioner, and Special Adviser, respectively. His boldness in spewing lies against credible leaders forms the pillars of a ruse to gain attention and relevance where none exists.

4. THE CONTRADICTION OF HIS OPEN LETTER TO MR. PRESIDENT

Recall that recently, Mr. Hunye wrote an open letter seeking audience with Mr. President, when in fact he has instituted an action against our party and our candidate, Senator Solomon Olamilekan Adeola, YAYI. The question arises: what does he want from Mr. President when he has already taken the party, of which Mr. President is the leader, to court? This is a contradiction that exposes his desperate and mischievous intentions.

5. PARTY DISCIPLINE AND THE CONSTITUTION

We hereby inform the public to stay clear of Mr. Hunye Abayomi, as he is not a member of our party. Let us ask a question rhetorically: Is there any position or status a member can attain in APC that insulates

him or her from the disciplinary action of the party? The answer is no. Disciplinary action, according to the Constitution of our party, is procedural. It begins from the Ward, to the Local Government, to the State, and then to the National level. This implies that Mr. Hunye's argument of obtaining nomination forms after his suspension is misplaced and further exposes his ignorance of the Constitution of our party.

To underscore this point, even a candidate or a sitting Governor can be suspended from the Party if he violates any provision of the Constitution of our Party. It follows, therefore, that the mere fact that Hunye obtained nomination forms does not in any way insulate him from the disciplinary action of the Party. No one, regardless of office or ambition, is above the Party's constitution and disciplinary framework.

6. THE LOSS OF IPOKIA'S REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNMENT

We wish to place on record that the inglorious dismissal of Mr. Abayomi Hunye as Special Adviser and Chief Executive Officer of the Ogun State Waste Management Agency (OGWAMA) is an embarrassment and a loss in representation in the government of Ogun State. Mr. Hunye's sack was on account of alleged corruption and other illegalities unbecoming of a person capable of holding public office. As of today, Mr. Hunye has made Ipokia lose representation in the cabinet of Ogun State Government. This is the heavy price we have had to pay because of one man's self-serving conduct.

7. THE QUESTIONABLE CHANGE OF NAME AND THE BURDEN OF IDENTITY

Furthermore, the sudden change in the name of the man who now refers to himself as Abayomi Hunye Semako calls for serious questioning. It is a matter of official record that while Mr. Abayomi Semako Hunye was in the employment of the Lagos State civil service, he was known, documented, and paid as *SEMAKO KOROTOE*. That was the name under which he served, signed official documents, and

received his salaries. At some point, however, he abruptly abandoned that identity and resurfaced as Abayomi Hunye—an identity change that, according to credible information available to us, was a face-saving maneuver designed to escape the fallout of an alleged cooperative scam perpetrated by Mr. Hunye Korotoe, as he was then known.

A name is more than a label; it is a trail of one's history, character, and integrity. When a public officer suddenly discards the name under which he built his career, and does so at a time when questions of financial probity are trailing him, the public has a right to ask why. If the change was innocent and lawful, why did it happen precisely at that moment? Why would a man with nothing to hide abandon the very identity under which his employers, colleagues, and business associates knew him? These are not idle questions. They go to the heart of the man's credibility.

We therefore challenge this "Name Changer," Mr. Abayomi Hunye, to produce, without delay, all official documents covering his time in the service of the Lagos State Government—including his letter of appointment, personal file, pay slips, promotion letters, correspondence, and every other record bearing on his employment. Let him show the public, by documentary evidence, that Semako Korotoe and Abayomi Hunye Semako are one and the same person. Let him explain, under oath, the full circumstances surrounding his change of name. Until he does so, his sudden interest in the ancestry of others, his claims of belonging, and his attempts to lecture the party on integrity must be treated with the contempt they deserve. Our people are tired of being deceived; we demand the truth.

8. A CALL TO PARTY LEADERSHIP

Since we cannot continue to do the same thing and expect a different result, we call on the leadership of our party at the State and National levels not to give any consideration to Mr. Abayomi Hunye in terms of audience or appointments. He has done more damage to

our party and the good people of Ipokia Local Government than any political opponent could ever do.

9. A CAUTION ON THE QUESTION OF YAYI'S INDIGENEITY

We need to caution Abayomi Hunye to immediately desist from making statements challenging the indigeneity of Senator Solomon Olamilekan Adeola, YAYI. We wonder why Hunye, who is neither from Ishaga, Ilaro, nor Pahayi—where Senator Adeola has his ancestral roots—would presume to speak on this matter. Abayomi Hunye, who is neither from Ilaro, Pahayi, nor Ishaga, is incompetent and hereby estopped from making any comment about YAYI's root. Perhaps Abayomi Hunye, bereft of any reputable family lineage in Tube, had thought the Candidate of our party is like him.

The family of Solomon Olamilekan Adeola have never denied him. Can the same be said of Hunye Abayomi? There is no single traditional ruler who can identify Hunye as a true-born of Tube in Ipokia Local Government.

10. FINAL DISASSOCIATION

On this note, the Leadership and the good people of Ipokia Local Government hereby disassociate ourselves from all actions of Mr. Abayomi Hunye Semako.

Thank you, and may God bless the APC, Ogun State, and Ipokia Local Government.