

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT GARKI, ABUJA**

**CLERK: MRS VICTORIA SILAS ADINOYI
COURT NO. 9**

**SUIT NO: FCT/HC/CR/40/2021
DATE: 3/02/2025**

BETWEEN:

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA..... COMPLAINANT

AND

COROZZERIA NIGERIA LIMITED..... DEFENDANT

**JUDGMENT
(DELIVERED BY HON. JUSTICE S. B. BELGORE)**

By way of an amended charge, this Defendant by name – Corozzeria Nig. Ltd – was arraigned and charged as follows:

“That you, Corozzeria Nigeria Limited, on or about the 22nd December 2014, in Abuja within the jurisdiction of this Honourable Court, did corruptly receive the sum of N118,000,000.00 (One Hundred and Eighteen Million Naira) only through your Polaris Bank account 4010023658 from Bestworth Insurance Brokers Limited, which sum form part of N27,188,232,208.20 (Twenty-seven billion, one hundred and eighty-eight million, two hundred and eight naira, twenty kobo) only approved for the payment of insurance claims for the deceased and incapacitated staff of Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) and thereby

committed an offence contrary to section 8(1) (a) of the Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Act 2000 and punishable under section 8(1) (b) (ii) of the same Act.

Attached to the charge sheet is a Plea Bargain Agreement filed on 8th July, 2024 and to which the Defendant and his Counsel and the prosecution and the investigating Police Officer have all signed. It was actually filed on 12th July, 2024.

A few minutes ago, the amended charge was read and explained to the Defendant in English language. He pleaded guilty to the charge and He is therefore convicted accordingly pursuant to the provision of section 8(1) (a) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000.

Now, having regard to the Plea Bargain agreement which I refer to earlier in this judgment, there is no need for *allocutus*. We proceed to sentencing straight away. The provision of the Plea Bargain Agreement reads:

- 1. The Defendant has been charged with the offence of gratification contrary to section 8(1) (a) of the Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Act 2000 and punishable under section 8(1) (b) (ii) of the same Act.**
- 2. The Defendant having seen and evaluated the weight of evidence attached to the proof of evidence, has approached the prosecution seeking for a Plea Bargain.**
- 3. The Defendant having refunded the entire sum of N148,000,000.00 (One Hundred and forty-eight million naira) only being subject of the criminal charge pending before this Honourable Court.**

4. **The Prosecution has considered the application for the plea bargain and have accepted same.**
5. **There is need to avoid wastage and further dissipation of the resources of the Court and the Federal Government of Nigeria in going into a long trial.**

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **That before the conclusion of this agreement, the Defendant was informed:**
 - (i) **That he has the right to remain silent.**
 - (ii) **Of the consequences of not remaining silent**
 - (iii) **That he is not obliged to make any confession that could be used in evidence against him.**
2. **That the Defendant shall plead guilty to the amended charge filed contrary to section 8(1) (a) of the Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Act 2000 and punishable under section 8(1) (b) (ii) of the same Act before this Honourable Court.**
3. **That upon conviction, the Defendant shall be sentenced by this Honourable Court to a fine of N2,000,000.00 (Two Million Naira) only.**
4. **That the Defendant shall be wound up and the assets shall be sold by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission and the proceeds therefrom shall be deposited into the Confiscated and Forfeited Properties Account of the Federal Government pursuant to the Proceeds of Crime (Recovery and Management) Act 2022.**

Therefore by virtue of the content of the above referred to as agreed vide paragraph 3 and 4 thereof, I sentence the Defendant as follows:

- (1) Fine of Two Million Naira (**N2,000,000**) only.
- (2) The Defendant Company is to be wound up and it's assets shall be sold by the Economic & Financial Crime Commission.

The proceed to be realized pursuant to (2) above shall be deposited into the confiscated and Forfeited Properties Account of the Federal Government pursuant to the proceeds of crime (Recovery & Management) Act 2022.

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S. B. Belgore
(Judge) 3/2/2025