Escravos Violence Death Toll Rises To Four By Harris-Okon Emmanuel

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FRACAS that erupted at the premises of the multi-billion dollars Escravos Gas-To-Liquid (EGTL) project in Warri South Council of Delta State,

has claimed four lives. The crisis has stoked up tension and it is believed that it could truncate the project

jointly owned by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and Chevron Nigeria Limited (CNL). Disturbed by the development, Governor Emmanuel

Uduaghan of Delta State, has stepped into it, by dispatching a high-powered delegation led by the Secretary to the State Government, Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, to calm frayed

The crisis also affected several facilities which were

allegedly damaged by the workers who protested the killing of their colleagues by soldiers in the yard. Sources said it broke out after one of the company's drivers refused to observe security check at every secu-

rity post in the premises on Monday. According to our sources, the worker in a convoy of

about 15 buses were being driven pass a number of se-curity checks but one of the driver refused to stop for the mandatory check, thereby forcing the soldier in the yard to ring the alarm bell which attracted his colleagues.