

Ijaw, Urhobo to maintain peace in Warri

By Emma Amaize

WARRI—IJAW and Urhobo leaders resolved at the weekend in Warri, Delta State, to steer clear of anything that will bring anarchy to the oil city of Warri.

The decision was taken at a peace meeting convened by the Delta Waterways Security Committee (DWSC) in collaboration with a notable Ijaw leader, Chief Tunde Smooth, to settle the rift between the Ijaw and Urhobo youths of Agbarha—Warri over the killing of an Ijaw youth by an

Urhobo youth following a disagreement at a drinking club in Warri, last week.

Ijaw youths had threatened bedlam except the killer of their kinsman, who fled after the incident, was produced.

The Police at the “A” Division, Warri responded by arresting the parents of the fleeing suspect but that did not pacify frayed nerves until Chief Smooth and the DWSC called the warring youths and families of the affected parties together.

Chief Smooth confirmed to *Vanguard*, weekend, that the matter has been resolved, saying that the family of the suspect had pleaded with the family, whose son was killed

and arrangements made to convey the corpse to Okpokunou for burial, yesterday, (Sunday).

He said that immediately, he, members of the DWSC, one Dan Yingi and Chief Williams Tulu invited the warring youths, telling them that the Ijaws, Urhobos and Itsekiris are one and nobody should provoke the other to let anarchy return to Warri. Chief Smooth said that no money was paid to the youths to accept the peace deal, adding that it was a collective decision of all to allow peace reign and avoid anything that would cause a division among the three ethnic groups in Warri.

