

and if ACF actually believed that the north was still one in view of the alleged apparent dichotomy which existed between the "core north" and those at the "periphery?"

His words, "the allegations by the chairman that the presidency may be poised to divide the North for political reasons may not be unconnected with what is happening in Northern States Governors Forum,

NDLEA arrests 195 for drug offences in Anambra

*Hard drug manufacturing lab discovered

BY VINCENT
UJUMADU, Awka

THE Anambra State command of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, NDLEA, has arrested 195 suspected drug dealers and addicts in the state, with two of them already sentenced to prison.

State commandant of the agency, Mr. Momadu Sule told reporters in Awka that drugs mostly trafficked in the state were cannabis, Indian hemp and cocaine.

He said that following a tip off, the agency discovered a clandestine laboratory located at Nanka in Orumba North local government area where metaphilane said to be the most potent illicit drug was being manufactured.

united North because the

Ovikpokpo murder: Court dismisses police appeal against N20m damages

•Awards N10m for murder of Monday Otete, local musician

BY EMMA AMAIZE

DELTA State High Court sitting in Otor Udu has thrown away an application by the police to

set aside a judgment of the court, which awarded N20 million damages against the Commander of the Quick Response Squad, QRS, Ogunu, Warri, for the brutal murder of late Engineer Gideon Ovikpokpo at Sedeco Roundabout, Enerhen in 2008.

Presiding judge, Justice Flora Azinge, also awarded N10 million damages against the police for the brutal murder of a local musician, Monday Otete, by men of the Nigeria Police, Ovwian, at a checkpoint mounted at Otor-Udu Junction, Otor-Udu on October 30, 2008 at about 8.00 pm.

The respondents and applicants had in a motion on notice filed on January 15 urged the court to set aside the judgment for lack of jurisdiction, amongst other reliefs.

However, after hearing arguments from counsels of the parties, the court ruled, "On the whole, the application of the defendants/applicants dated 15/1/2013 fails and it is hereby dismissed for being unmeritorious."

On the late musician, Justice Azinge said that based on the two issues formulated by the claimants, the murder of Monday Otete by the

police at a police checkpoint at Otor-Udu Junction, October 30, 2008, on the pretext that he was an armed robber "is wrongful and ultra vires the powers of the defendants."

Consequently, the court granted a perpetual injunction restraining the police, Defendants by themselves, their agents privies, nominees and assigns from removing and/or relocating the corpse of the Late Monday Otete deposited by the claimants at the morgue of the Etefia Clinic, Ovwian, Delta State, to any other place for burial.

Over 2.3m Benue children immunised against killer diseases

BY PETER DURU

NO few than 2.3million Benue children were said have been immunised against childhood killer diseases in the just concluded Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Week organised by the Benue State Ministry of Health and Human Services.

State Nutrition Officer, Mrs. Catherine Anger who disclosed this yesterday while fielding questions from Journalists in Makurdi explained that children from ages zero to five were immunised during the period against polio, yellow fever and measles adding that vitamin A supplementation, deworming tablets, were

also given to the children.

Anger said the week long exercise was carried out in conjunction with UNICEF, Helen Keller International and the World Health Organization, WHO.

She added that over 21,500 long lasting treated mosquito nets were distributed to pregnant women and nursing

mothers during the week, adding that pregnant women were also given tetanus toxoid and iron folate to prevent anemia.

The Nutrition Officer further noted that "the exercise recorded over 90 percent success because of the effective social mobilisation we embarked on prior to the commencement of the routine immunisation."

for extending micro-finance to Lagos

THE coordinator of IJAW Monitoring Group and former publicity secretary of IJAW National Congress (INC) Comrade Joseph EVAH has hailed the Delta State Governor, Dr. Emmanuel UDUAGHAN for extending the state micro-finance scheme to Delta State indigenes in Lagos.

Receiving the Delta State Commissioner For Poverty Alleviation Dr. Mrs. Asedieu during the public presentation of cheques to the beneficiaries of the scheme at Ajegunle in Lagos, the IJAW leader said "this is unbelievable, I made this request to the governor just two months ago to assist thousands of Deltans suffering in Lagos without hope and he brought this succour to his people. The governor has shown that his concern for the welfare of his people goes beyond the people living in our homeland. We are grateful to God for giving the people of the state a listening governor."

He thanked the micro-finance team led by Dr. Asedieu for protecting the scheme with all their strength making it a reference point at the United Nations as a road map in sustainable development in Africa.