

23 killed by security operatives in enforcing lockdown — CLEEN

By Innocent Anaba

A civil society organisation, CLEEN Foundation, has said that no fewer than 23 persons have been killed by security operatives in the course of enforcing the lockdown imposed by the federal and governments to curtail the spread of Coronavirus pandemic in Nigeria.

CLEEN Foundation said that the deaths occurred through various forms of extra-judicial killings perpetrated by security personnel nationwide.

According to a report by Benson Olugbuo, Executive Director, CLEEN Foundation, the deaths were recorded as follows; Kaduna, 12; Abia, 5; Anambra, 2; Delta, 1; Niger, 1; Ebonyi, 1; Katsina, 1.

The National Human

Rights Commission, NHRC, had shortly after the first phase of 14-days' lockdown confirmed 18 of the death incidents.

The Foundation disclosed that it has collated reports on the lockdown from the six geopolitical zones and in Federal Capital Territory, Lagos and Ogun and other states where forms of restrictions were imposed by the state governors.

CLEEN called for improved synergy between the Federal and state Governments on the coordination of COVID-19 responses across the nation, while urging security agents to embrace rights based approach to enforce the restriction of movement directives and complete transparency in the distribution of palliatives to vulnerable Nigerians, among others.