

**Dermot Ahern TD,
Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform
Dail Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

13th November 2008

**Re: Pamela Izevbekhai and her daughters, Naomi(7) and Jemima(5)
Failed asylum seekers subject to Deportation Orders. DOJ File Ref: 69/196/05
Application for subsidiary protection (EC (Eligibility for Protection) Regulations 2006 (S.I.
No. 516 of 2006))**

Dear Minister Ahern,

I write to you again regarding the above case on which you should be now fully briefed by your Departmental Officials.

I wish to remind you of your obligations under Council Directive 2004/83/EC to provide subsidiary protection to certain failed asylum seekers in Ireland and to follow your own Department's Guidelines on determining eligibility for subsidiary protection. Section 6 of the Dept of Justice, Equality and Law Reform states categorically that a person is eligible for subsidiary protection if the following three conditions are satisfied:

*“(a) you are not a national of a Member State of the European Union,
(b) you have been refused a declaration as a refugee in Ireland, and
(c) substantial grounds have been shown for believing that, if returned to your country of origin, you would face a real risk of suffering serious harm and you are unable, or, owing to such risk, unwilling to avail yourself of the protection of that country.”*

It has been demonstrated without question that Pamela, Naomi(7) and Jemima(5) fulfill all of the above grounds and the State have fully accepted all her claims of persecution. It is also clear that there is **no internal protection alternative in Nigeria**. Amnesty International have pronounced publicly that they do not accept the State of Nigeria can protect them from harm and opposes any forced deportation of this family. Even your most experienced officials must take serious heed to the advice of a worldwide Human Rights organisation that have vast and accurate information concerning internal human rights matters or lack thereof in Nigeria.

It is therefore imperative that you as Minister decide this matter now in favour of Pamela, Naomi(5) & Jemima(7). Further lengthy court battles are not necessary and only add to the suffering of two little girls and their mother who have been living in a single room for over three years. They have done no wrong and they do not deserve to be treated like criminals by this State. They deserve our respect and our protection.

Please, Minister Ahern, use your common sense and focus on the individual merits of this case. It is well overtime that this State treated Pamela, Naomi and Jemima like fellow human beings and not like aliens from another planet.

Yours sincerely,