

# NPA, FRC disagree over N6.3bn outstanding remittances

By Sunday Michael Ogwu

The Fiscal Responsibility Commission (FRC) and the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) have disagreed over a clean bill of health issued the NPA by the Budget Office of the federation.

The disagreement became manifest yesterday during a public meeting that involved representatives of the two organisations.

At the meeting, the NPA denied

FRC's claim that it refused to remit the sum of N6.3 billion to the Consolidated Revenue Funds (CRF) between 2007 and 2008.

The sum of N3.7 billion was outstanding for 2007 and N2.5 billion for 2008 which the NPA said has been certified cleared by the Budget Office.

FRC also indicted the management of the NPA for its failure to prepare and publish their 2012 and 2013 audited financial reports in compliance with section 23 (3) of the

Fiscal Responsibility Act 2007.

Speaking at the event, the acting Chairman of the FRC Barrister Victor Muruako said: "The reconciliation carried out by the Budget Office is like usurping the constitutional functions of the FRC, so getting an all clear from them is like avoiding the FRC.

"We are working for the same parents so let me make it abundantly clear that the difference we have established still stands until

a committee from both agencies concludes otherwise."

In its defence, the Director of Finance of the NPA Oduntan Olumide, who stood in for the chief executive, said: "We want to resolve all past issues and we don't want to create any for future management, we came on board in 2012 and we have remitted N15 billion to CRF as a result of the reconciliation carried out by the Budget Office, it has never happened before."

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