

MAJOR UNDERTAKINGS CONT'D...

Outcome at Trial Court (October 2025):

The Federal High Court upheld the Preliminary Objection of the 3rd Defendant, holding that:

- The Claimants did not sufficiently establish legal standing (locus standi)
- The Claimants did not demonstrate direct impact from the challenged provisions

Post-Judgment Action

- Judgment analyzed by technical legal team
- Strategic meetings held before and after judgment
- Decision taken to proceed to appeal
- Notice of Appeal filed on 2nd January 2026
- Records compiled and transmitted to the Court of Appeal on 29th January 2026

Current Status

- Appeal fully initiated and active
- Records transmitted to Court of Appeal, Lagos Division
- Appellant and Respondent briefs to be exchanged
- Hearing expected within appellate timeline (subject to court scheduling)

Next Steps

- Filing of Appellant Brief
- Exchange of Respondent Brief
- Hearing of Appeal (anticipated July – December 2026)
- Possible escalation to Supreme Court, depending on the outcome

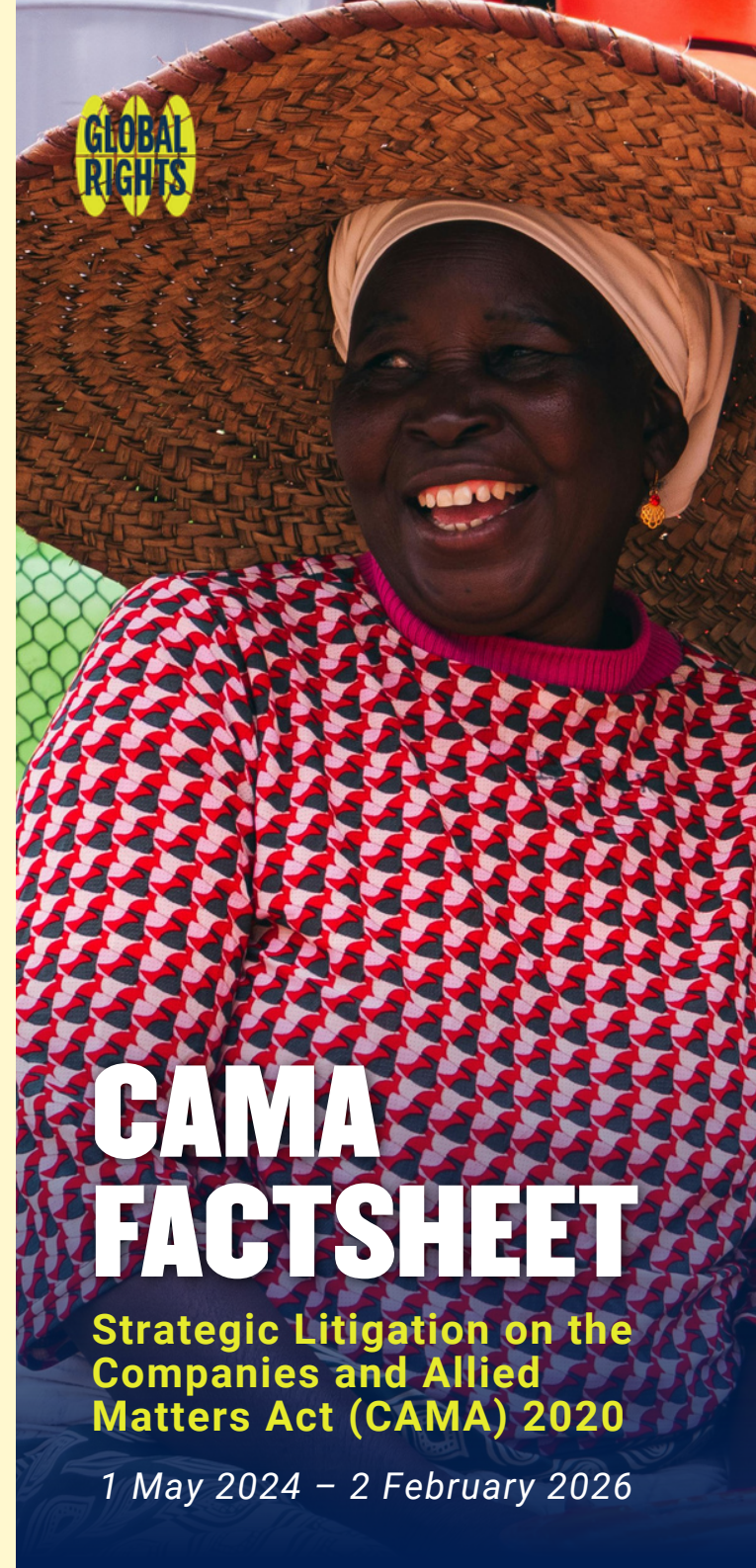
This case is not only about specific provisions of CAMA 2020, but about ensuring that regulatory frameworks affecting civil society operate within constitutional boundaries and do not unintentionally restrict civic space in Nigeria.



CAMA FACTSHEET

Strategic Litigation on the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA) 2020

1 May 2024 – 2 February 2026





PROJECT OVERVIEW

With support from the Open Society Foundations (OSF), Global Rights and NULAI Nigeria are pursuing strategic litigation challenging selected provisions of the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA) 2020.

The case focuses on whether specific regulatory powers granted to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) are consistent with constitutional guarantees on freedom of association, fair hearing, and civic space protections.

Core Objective

To ensure that regulatory powers under CAMA 2020 are exercised within constitutional limits and do not unduly restrict the operations and autonomy of Incorporated Trustees and civil society organizations in Nigeria.



PARTIES

Plaintiff

- The Incorporated Trustees of Global Rights, Advocates for Sustainable Justice
- The Incorporated Trustees of Tap Initiative

Defendants

- The Senate President, The Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
- The Speaker, The House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
- The Corporate Affairs Commission
- The Attorney General of the Federation

KEY PROVISIONS UNDER CHALLENGE

The litigation specifically challenges:

- Section 824 – CAC's power to determine classification of associations
- Section 828(4) – CAC authority over objections to registration of Incorporated Trustees
- Section 850(1)(d) & (2)(e) – CAC powers relating to dissolution and revocation of registration

MAJOR ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

Legal Team Mobilization:

Convened a high-level litigation team including Senior Advocates of Nigeria, and appointed a Technical Litigation Lead for coordination and strategy.

Pre-Litigation & Filing:

Issued Pre-Action Notice to Corporate Affairs Commission, and the case was instituted at the Federal High Court, Lagos, in September 2024.

Court Proceedings:

7 court appearances between 2024–2025, judgment delivered on 3rd October 2025.