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## **Groundbreaking ECOWAS Court judgment key moment in holding governments and companies to account for pollution**

A regional court ruling found the Nigerian government and multinational corporations responsible for years of pollution in the Niger Delta yesterday, in what Amnesty International said was a crucial precedent that vindicates the human right to a healthy environment.

“This historic ruling affirms the human right of the Nigerian people to live a life free from pollution and makes clear that the government must hold the oil companies to account,” said Kolawole Olaniyan, a legal advisor for Amnesty International.

“Amnesty International joins the many Nigerian human rights activists in welcoming this decision and invites the government to identify the steps it will now take to make this judgment a reality.”

Amnesty International and Socio-Economic Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP), a Nigerian NGO, will issue a more detailed joint statement tomorrow.