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Shell fined \$5bn by Nigeria for oil spills

Amnesty International expert available for interview

Amnesty International's Director of Global Issues, Audrey Gaughran, is available for comment on Shell and Nigeria, following the news that the Nigerian authorities have fined Shell \$5bn as an "administrative penalty" over an oil spill last year at an offshore field.

Shell halted operations at the Bonga oilfield after the leak on December 20 2011. About 40,000 barrels of crude oil reportedly leaked into the sea. The company has said there is no basis for the fine.

Audrey Gaughran has worked on Amnesty International's campaign to make Shell acknowledge its responsibility for the impacts of oil pollution in the Niger Delta for several years.

As part of this campaign, Amnesty International has called on Shell to:

- Carry out a comprehensive clean-up of oil pollution and environmental damage in Bodo and all other affected sites, in consultation with local communities.
- Support the need for further assessment of oil pollution across the wider oil-producing Niger Delta region.
- Pay fair and adequate compensation to all affected communities.

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