

## **CPC condemns Federal Government over refusal of visa to former US envoy**

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The opposition Congress for Progressive Change (CPC) has criticised the Nigerian government's refusal to renew an entry visa for the former ambassador of the United States of America to Nigeria

, John Campbell, saying the decision portrays the country in bad light.

The party alleged that the refusal had to do with Campbell's criticism of the Peoples Democratic Party-led government.

Campbell last year, described Nigeria as fragmented and unstable and even predicted that the country would disintegrate by the year 2015.

He is also known to hold an uncomplimentary opinion about the recently concluded general elections which were widely acclaimed to be free, fair and credible.

The CPC, in a statement signed by its national publicity secretary, Rotimi Fashakin, accused the government of unjustifiably persecuting Campbell for what it calls the former ambassador's straightforward opinion about the country.

It therefore called on the government to not only renew Mr Campbell's visa but also tender an unreserved apology to the American diplomat.

Nigerian embassy officials had earlier explained that the refusal to grant Mr. Campell a visa to attend a function in Nigeria was due to his failure to meet prescribed visa requirements.

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