MARINHA DO BRASIL DIRETORIA DE ENSINO DA MARINHA

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TRADUÇÃO DE TEXTO EM INGLÊS

Leia e traduza para o português o seguinte texto:

Nigeria, besides being the most populous country in Africa, is also Africa's largest — and the world's eighth largest — producer and exporter of oil. Recently Nigeria has also become a major supplier of liquefied natural gas (LNG). The country is therefore seen as a key player in international energy politics, with its proven oil reserves of 23 billion barrels and gas reserves of 160 trillion cubic meters. Nearly all the oil and gas deposits are concentrated in the Niger Delta Region (NDR). The NDR covers 12% of Nigeria's total surface area, and is home to over 31 million people from about 40 ethnic nationalities, speaking over 250 languages and dialects.

Despite more than five decades of oil and gas exploitation in Nigeria, and the huge income derived from the NDR's petroleum resources, the region remains the most under-developed in the country. A federal government agency, the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) quite rightly observed that the developmental challenges of the region are:

"widespread poverty; severe lack of infrastructure and amenities in the rural areas; being the world's third largest wetland with fragile ecosystems; high unemployment, rural-urban migration, urban decay; and environmental degradation and pollution".

The result has been a series of agitations between the industry and society at large. It has been shown that global environmental change, or the social problems of desperate poverty, can stimulate antisocial behaviour and terrorism. This is prevalent in the NDR. The trend in the area has been to take foreigners hostage or to sabotage oil facilities. Such violent agitations have on many occasions led to rising oil prices in the international market. The area is fast turning into a serious threat not only to the Nigerian state, but also to international energy supplies. For instance, up to a quarter of the country's total crude oil production has been reduced since 2005, due largely to the activities of youths demanding a fair share of the revenues derived from the industry, along with social justice and equity in the region.

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