



NPA X-News

Monthly Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority

Vol. 1 No.4 November, 2017

MAIDEN TOWN HALL MEETING:

HADIZA CHARGES NPA WORKFORCE TOWARDS GREATER OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

By Omidiji Olubi

The Managing Director of Nigerian Ports Authority [NPA] Hadiza Bala Usman has solicited for the support and cooperation from the organization's workforce in the determination and drive towards making the

organization attain its Vision statement of being the leading Port in the sub-Saharan Africa.

Hadiza made this statement at the maiden Town Hall meeting organized by Management for all cadre of the organizations workforce held at the NPA Sports Ground, Bode Thomas Street, Surulere, Lagos.

Hadiza during the parley charged all on the need for improved dedication to duty and synergy across board towards leaving a long lasting legacy for the incoming workforce. She had earlier informed all at the parley of the present Management's thrust which include improved revenue generation, blockage of revenue leakages, and manpower development amongst others. She stated that these can be achieved through improved unity and common sense of purpose.

Management she further enthused would do all within its best possible means and available resources to provide an enabling environment for the entire workforce towards improved optimal performance and productivity across the port locations in the country.

On the issue of training, the Managing Director called on the relevant Departments to ensure that all, irrespective of their cadre are treated equally in the selection for training programs. She expressed her displeasure at the disparity at training opportunities presently being faced by many within the workforce.

The NPA helmsperson directed her office to

immediately provide Suggestion Boxes in her office and strategic locations for the workforce to get across matters of utmost interest which would be treated with confidentiality.

On the issue of staff welfare, she informed the gathering that approval has been gotten for the procurement of eight buses, three Ambulances and nine pickup Vans amongst other welfare programmes aimed at providing comfort to all.

She advised all present to take utmost priority on all issues concerning their health. News filtering to her she stated, has shown that many of the Organization's personnel wait till medical issues deteriorates before they seek for medical assistance from the Authorities hospitals. This she stated has led to the avoidable loss of precious lives in recent times. Management she promised would ensure the issue of disparity in medical services within the Organization is abolished with immediate effect.

Workforce present commended the Managing Director and her Management for this initiative of organizing the parley which was the first in the history of the Organisation. They called on Management to further ensure that this initiative is held at least twice within a calendar year in order to navigate effectively the Management thrust through seamless dissemination of information.

Present at the venue were the Executive Directors Finance and Administration Mohammed Bello Koko, Engineering and Technical Services Professor Idris Abubakar, General Manager Human Resources Bukar Yahaya.

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The Managing Director of Nigerian Ports Authority, Hadiza Bala Usman added another 'First' to the list of her achievements since assumption of office over One and a half years ago recently when she held a town hall meeting with the entire workforce of the Authority. Unprecedented in the history of the 62 year old Federal Government parastatal, the town hall meeting provided opportunity to interact with the workers. Details of the interactive session are highlighted in this edition.

The 2017 edition of the Lagos International Trade Fair has just ended. The Authority participated in the 10 day event during which the Managing Director of NPA told all Stakeholders that the Authority is ever ready to support the nation's economy and global industrialization. Full details of NPA's participation in this fair are also presented in this edition. Other stories are equally highlighted for your delight.

Happy reading.

Ude Catherine (Mrs.)
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Contributions are welcome from members of staff.
You can send high resolution photographs of your events like birthdays, baby showers, and others.



Archaival



Launching Ceremony of the first Nigerian Fishing Trawler "The Comet" in 1958



Occupational Health

OUR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

By Ngozi Obikili

PROLONGED SITTING IS A WORKPLACE HAZARD

“Break, Stand and Move”

The workplace is replete with sitting hazard. Recent studies revealed that sitting for 6 hours a day is as bad as smoking more than a pack of cigarettes or exposure to tobacco smoke.

A work-through survey and interview conducted by Occupational officers showed that out of 100 officers sampled, about 80% of them confirmed sitting down for up to 3 hours at a stretch. This situation is hazardous and continuous exposure predisposes concerned employees to negative health effects of sitting which may include 40% increased risk of death.

Health Risks associated with Prolonged Sitting:

Poor blood circulation – swelling ankles, varicose veins and even blood clots weakened cardiovascular system

Heart diseases – hypertension, coronary heart disease

Obesity – weight gain and likelihood of Type-2 diabetes

Reduced mobility – weak bones, loss of muscle tone, joint stiffness and decreased flexibility, which increases the risks of falls

Posture – neck strain, shoulder and back pain

Back pain – Sitting puts more pressure on the lower part of the spine

Brain – slows down brain function

Cancer – It exposes to some forms of cancers such as colon, breast and endometrial

Risk Management: Break, stand up and move!!!

Take the stairs instead of the lift.

Set a goal of 5,000 – 10,000 steps a day

Park your car farther away from the office and walk down

Take a longer, roundabout way to your desk

Set a time every hour to remind you to stand up and move for at least 2 minutes after every hour of sitting

Stand up to pick phone calls

Do simple stretches or exercises at your desk.

Adopt routine non-rigorous exercise movement in your office

Do more walking to pass on messages or mails.

Stand whenever you are in a short meeting

It is important to note that even small amounts of physical activity during work greatly reduces risks to the heart.

American Heart foundation says when you sit less and move more, your heart will thank you.

Break, Stand Up and Move!!! Keep active, don't shut down your body system.

Move More, Sit Less



Your heart will thank you



COURTESY VISIT

The Port Manager Onne complex, Alhassan Ismaila Abubakar with some of his Management team, visited the palace of HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, HON. (DR) J.D.OSARONU (BARRISTER-AT-LAW), ONEH-EH ONNE VI on a courtesy call. The visit was mainly to extend the Corporate Social Responsibility of the Managing Director, NPA, HADIZA BALA USMAN gesture to its host community of which ONNE community is one. Receiving the team, HRH expressed gratitude to the Managing Director and promised to ensure that Onne environment is peaceful and conducive for business activities.

Happy Birthday



Mrs. Taiwo Safuriat Omodayo
3rd November
Technical Manager
Engineering Dept.
HQ, Marina, Lagos.



Mrs. Funmilayo Olotu
15th November
Port Manager
Calabar Port Complex



Engr. Ferdinard Azi
11th November
Senior Manager Safety
Calabar Port Complex



Mrs. Bolaji Omotunde
14th November
Security Officer I
Lagos Port Complex
Apapa.



Mrs. Felicia Odile
9th November
Secretary to GM,
Corp. & Strat. Comms. Div.
HQ, Marina, Lagos.

Mrs. Ebunola Ajijala
11th November
Asst. Manager
Corp. & Strat. Comms. Div.
HQ, Marina, Lagos.



Mrs. Nnenna Ukaegbu- Olatunji
26th November
Admin. Dept.
HQ, Marina, Lagos.

PICTURES FROM THE FIRST EVER INTERACTIVE SESSION BETWEEN NPA MANAGEMENT AND WORKFORCE





RIVERS PORT HOST 38th JCC CONFERENCE

By Ezinne Asinobi

The Management of Rivers Port recently hosted the 38th Joint Consultative Conference of the Senior Staff Association of Communication, Transport and Corporations (SSACTAC) at Owerri, Imo State with the theme "Repositioning the Nigerian Ports Authority for Economic Recovery and Services: the Role of the Trade Union".

This gesture was due to the cooperation and maturity displayed by the leadership of the association to the Port Management which according to the Port Manager is overwhelming and highly commendable.

Mr. Abubakar G. Umar in his goodwill message disclosed that the JCC has from time immemorial, been an avenue to think outside the box by initiating ending changes with a view to arriving at mutually beneficial solutions to challenges confronting the organization in general and the workforce in terms of their welfare.

He said that the Management of Rivers Port places a high premium on the relationship with the Association and therefore sought for its unflinching support and cooperation in its determination to take the organization to its next level as the leading Port in Africa.

Umar highlighted some areas of welfare matters which management has taken keen interest in, such as regular provision of potable water as enshrined in the Factory Act, 2004, regular provision of quality and essential drugs in the medical clinic, holding periodic town hall meetings with the entire officers and staff for cross fertilization of ideas on staff welfare and operational issues, open door administration to the two house unions, the workforce and other stakeholders in the Port, training and re-training of employees, health assessment programme, skills and competency assessment and assessment and recognition of the best outstanding employee of the month.

He therefore urged the Association to sensitize and educate its members on the need to imbibe the culture of work ethics, devotion and commitment to duty as well as develop positive

attitude to work which would enhance productivity.

Speaking during the occasion, the President of (SSACTAC) Comrade Benson Adegbeiyemi said the JCC is important as it serves as a platform for critical examination of welfare actions by Executive Management of the Union. He informed the participants of efforts made to address some welfare issues which according to him is receiving positive attention.

Earlier in a welcome address, the SSACTAC Chairman, Port Harcourt Zone, Comrade Musa Dahiru Doma said he is quite optimistic that at the end of the Conference, the leaders of the union would present not just a Communiqué but a welfare agenda that would be pursued with vigour for Management to implement some teething issues, such as new condition of service/financial grant, increase in gratuity, housing grant to workers amongst others.

He however commended the indefatigable Port Manager Mr. A. G. Umar for his assistance in ensuring successful hosting of the Conference and also the Branch President, Comrade Benson Adegbeiyemi for his contributions.

Also speaking during the occasion, the outgoing JCC Chairman, Eastern Zone, Comrade Abok Azi Ajiji said that the JCC under his watch took an accelerated approach on resolving issues within the workforce that will enhance industrial harmony and boost production, which according to him was impaired by a lot of factors including finance and short tenure in office. He said despite these challenges meetings were held to address issues such as condition of Service/Financial Guide, Promotion, Port and Harbour Bill, Salary structure/monthly Pay Slip and Dockyard Finger Jetty. He however urged the incoming Chairman to follow up these issues.

Highlight of the occasion was the handover of the JCC Eastern Zone to the Chairman SSACTAC Port Harcourt Zone, Comrade Musa Dahiru Doma and Elijah Ojeh as Secretary.

In his Acceptance Speech, Comrade said he will strive to ensure that the Eastern Area has a functional bank account, pull the various zones in the east together periodically to foster unity for coordinated action, and work assiduously with the Branch

2017 LAGOS INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR

AN EFFICIENT SEAPORT, A CHANNEL TOWARDS GLOBAL INDUSTRIALIZATION - HADIZA

The Managing Director of Nigeria Ports Authority [NPA] Hadiza Bala Usman has informed all relevant Stakeholders in the Maritime sub sector and the general public of the readiness of Management at investing resources in the area of capacity building and an efficient Port system towards the growth of the nation's economy and global industrialization.

According to her, Developing Nations of the world have come to the realization that industrialization is a channel through which a nation's economic recovery short and long term is dependent upon. Hence all hand must be on deck by all concerned towards finding a long lasting solution to these perennial problems facing our nation in the area of starvation, diseases and unemployment amongst others.

Hadiza made this remark at the Special Day of the NPA during the just concluded 2017 International Trade Fair organized by the Lagos Chambers of Commerce and Industry at the Tafawa Balewa Square with the theme "Promoting Industrialization For Economic Recovery And Sustainable Growth".

According to the NPA helmsperson who was represented by the General Manager Corporate and Strategic Communication, Abdullahi Goje, Management is assiduously working towards making our Seaports a safe haven for investors within the sub-Sahara Africa by providing a conducive environment for all in line with International best practices.

In her words "there is currently an Executive Order on 24 hour Port Operations and the Authority has placed all the necessary mechanisms to ensure the realization of the Order"

In her welcome address, the President of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry [LCCI], Dr. [Mrs] Nike Akande CON lauded the contributions of the Port Industry to the growth and development of the nation's economy, and called on the relevant Government Agencies to ensure an enabling environment for an efficient Port system.

She noted further; "The Ports are critical to the economic life of this country and this makes it imperative that Agencies managing the Nation's Ports and Maritime Infrastructure must continually work towards a better regulatory and operational environment that guarantees Ports efficiency across the Country. The issues around Port Operations are well known by the Agencies concerned with Port management in Nigeria and we acknowledge the efforts of Government towards improving the efficiency of the Ports".

In his speech the Chairman, Trade Promotion of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce, Mr Sola Oyetayo charged all Stakeholders to ensure a total rejuvenation in their policies in the area of 24 hour Port Operations in the Ports, 48 Hours Cargo clearance at the Ports including improvement of traffic within the access roads amongst others.

He commended the Managing Director for her passion towards the participation of NPA at the Fair and that NPA's participation has added value to trade promotion over the years.

Exhibitors at the 10 day event were drawn from Local and International Companies from China, Egypt, Japan, Ghana, India, European Union, Indonesia, Pakistan as well as local and medium scale entrepreneurs.

Highlight of the occasion was the presentation of Award to the Managing Director in recognition of her contributions to the development of Nigeria economy in the Maritime sector.

The NPA Management was represented by the Assistant General Manager, Corporate and Strategic Communications Port Promotions Isah Suwaid, Ibrahim Nasiru Media and Protocol while the LCCI delegation had on its team the Deputy President Mr. Babatunde Rowase [FCA] as well as Chairman Trade promotions Board Mr. Sola Oyetayo.



WORK HOUR RELAXATION

Vox Pop

If you were given an education grant of \$1 million for any of your children which of them would you give this opportunity, Male or Female?

Given a \$1M? Definitely the money will be expended on my daughter's education. This is without prejudice to her brothers. She will require that much to bring her ambition of being a pilot.

- Odugbemi Kayode
Manager, Corp. & Strat. Comms.
HQ, Marina - Lagos.



Educate a girl, educate a whole nation because women are Home/family and Nation builders. They are more passionate about building a stable, just and fair society free of corruption and wickedness.

Saint David Eze
Asst. Gen. Manager
Audit Dept.



- The female child builds the home, she needs all the education (formal/informal) to empower herself.
- She is already disadvantaged by customs/tradition, so she needs education to break free.

Emedo Patricia C.
Prin. Personal Secretary
Personnel Dept.



I would opt for my eldest son aiming to study Medicine abroad due to no enabling infrastructural environment in Nigeria. Thank You.

Edet Itighise
Personnel Officer I
Corp. & Strat. Comms. Division
HQ, Marina - Lagos.

I'll give it to the Female child because it is only her that knows the importance of parents than the Male. The Male after Marriage would face their wives and children. I am talking from experience.

Ijeoma Agwu
Security Dept.
HQ, Marina - Lagos.



When a female is empowered it bears a multiplier effect. A generation is established and nurtured for life. It will make a strong pillar in her family.

Joachim Akinseloyin
PGDO, Corp. & Strat. Comms.
HQ, Marina - Lagos.



Both are important.

Mrs. Umeru
Personal secretary
Personnel Dept.



They are four and all Males. I would give it therefore to my first boy whom by God's Grace has been capable enough to take care of himself first and take care of his siblings thereafter.

Benjamin T. Humble
Manager
Traffic Dept.
HQ, Marina - Lagos.

- Females are more caring.
- Males are rascally.
- Males have more responsibility to carry in the future.

Mrs. P. S. Maduka
Prin. Manager
Audit Dept.



I will give it to my son because Female children will get married, but just to add more value to the family name, I will give the education grant to my son.

Eunice .B. Mbah
Manager, Corp. & Strat. Comms.
HQ, Marina - Lagos.



Male child.
Reasons:

1. Irrespective of educational qualification he can still take care of his parents, his siblings and his immediate family without hinderance if he chooses to.
2. The male child maintains the family name while the female child loses once married.

Bello, A. O.
Accountant 1
Finance Dept.
HQ, Marina - Lagos.



A NATIONAL BRAND ASSET ANCHORED ON SERVICE EXCELLENCE



The **Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA)** aims to provide professional port operation which meets the current and future needs of our customers.

Applying a proactive and innovative approach in managing the Ports in Nigeria maximises operational efficiencies and provides real value for money to all our stakeholders and port facility users.

- Efficiency - Customer Satisfaction - Safety & Security - Innovation -

Nigerian Ports Authority

...To be the Leading Port in Africa...

Our Port Locations:

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