



# NPA News

Monthly Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority Vol. 1 No.3 October, 2017

## NPA FIRE SERVICE SQUAD 49 PASSING OUT PARADE



### What's Inside

ARCHAIVAL  
- Pg. 2

WORK HOUR RELAXATION  
- Pg. 3

NPA MD CHARGES  
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN  
ON EFFECTIVE PERFORMANCE  
- Pg. 4

NPA COLLABORATES WITH  
FRSC ON SAFETY  
- Pg. 5

MEGA SHIPS RETURNS  
TO CALABAR PORT  
- Pg. 7

The Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Hadiza Bala Usman (Sited 2nd from left), The Executive Director, Marine and Operations, Dr. Sokonte H. Davies (2nd from right), The Executive Director, Finance and Administration, Mohammed Bello-Koko (left) and The Executive Director Engineering and Technical Services, Prof. Idris Abubakar (right), surrounded by officers of Squad 49 during their Passing Out Parade at NPA Fire Service Training Center, Lagos Ports Complex (LPC), Apapa, Lagos





**T**he Federal Government under the able leadership of President Mohammed Buhari in July 2016, appointed Hadiza Bala Usman as the Managing Director of Nigerian Ports Authority. This appointment is significant because she is the first female Managing Director of the 62 year-old parastatal.

Since her appointment she has proved to be equal to the task going by her outstanding achievements, some of which are chronicled in this third edition of the publication.

The Managing Director also hosted Professional women under the aegis of Network of Professional Women in the Maritime and Ports sector of West Africa and Central Africa (PMAWCA) in Lagos.

History was also made in Calabar when the Port received MV. Desert Ranger, a 200 metres long and 61000 MT heavy vessel. Details of the celebration of this development and other activities of NPA are highlighted in this edition.

Happy reading.

**Nasiru Ibrahim**  
Deputy Editor-in-chief.

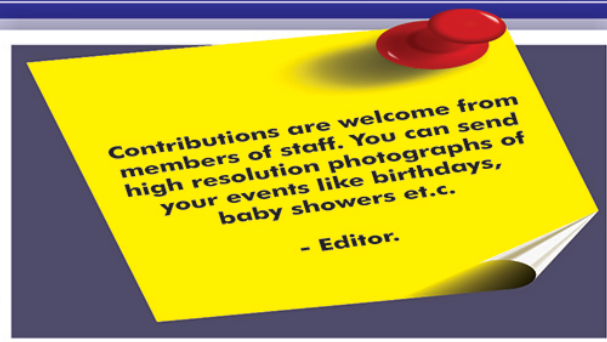
#### EDITORIAL

Goje Abdullahi Aliyu - Editor-In-Chief  
Nasiru Ibrahim - Deputy Editor-In-Chief

#### Production Team:

Olusola Akosile, Olubiye Omidiji, Ebunola Dorcas Ajijala  
Ebere Alaezi-Offia, Ali Garba Hassan

Production of Corporate and Strategic Communications Division  
Contributions to be sent through: [npanews@nigerianports.org](mailto:npanews@nigerianports.org)



#### NPA News Quote

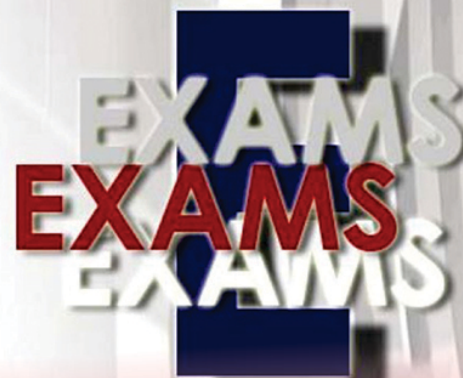
**You can't cross the sea  
merely by standing and  
staring at the water.**

Rabindranath Tagore

## EXAM "FEVER" AT NPA

**T**he mention of the word examination to some people is sending shivers down their spine. Ordinarily, it requires a long and serious form of preparation in the area of concentration, sorting of relevant materials and the determination to pass.

One of the reasons for this is not far-fetched. An average student detests failure and is full of anxiety when the result is expected to be released. Experts and researchers have come up with various reasons for this phobia. Most importantly is the issue of Fear.



### Archival



Offloading of Jaguar cars at the Apapa Port  
imported for the celebrations of Nigerian Independence  
- 4th April, 1960

In a related development, the Hadiza led the Management of Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) recently organized a promotional examination for qualified officers and staff who were promoted three years ago and those who needed to move up through upgrading.

Many had looked towards the fateful day when the details were released in July by the Human Resources Division.

Officers and Staff at the Corporate Headquarters Marina Office went all out to seek for relevant materials for the examination. They prepared by sharing amongst themselves examination materials. They took advantage of lunch hour break at work to discuss these questions.

Cont. on pg. 3



# WORK HOUR RELAXATION

## Vox Pop

If you won a trip to travel abroad with either of your parents, who will it be?



**Lola Amusa**  
Corporate & Strategic Comm. Div.

That would be my Father. The reason is that my Mother and I have been very close. My Father feels left out. So I would use the Month holiday as a gift to bridge the gap.



I will go with my Mother because she was the one who carried me in her Womb for nine (9) months. So I have a very strong love and affection for my Mum even though I still love my Father.

**Mr. B Paul**  
Engineering Dept.



To be sincere, I will travel with my Father. My reason is quite simple, He is very much agile and smart to adapt to environmental changes.

**Idris Usman**  
P.P.P. Division



I will choose to go with my Father because we are best of friends. Aside this, I will need his experience and guidance since I will be travelling to another part of the world.

**Ahmed Sagir**  
Fire service Dept.

Cont. from pg. 2

Few days to the exam date, many went all out to make reservations at hotels close to the examination center. They had wanted a conducive environment suitable for their preparations.

Many were seen even in the wee hours of the examination date having last minute discussion on likely questions and strategies. Believe it or not, the tension and anxiety was very high. Many turned the place to a prayer ground. The Corporate Headquarter complex was at its lowest ebb with many taking time off from their official schedule to prepare for this examination they last

had 3 years ago.

The rains came down heavily on the examination date. We all had to look for spaces to seat whilst the officials finalized arrangements.

The examinations were conducted in two segments, Objectives and Essay writing. At the end of the day, we were told to submit our scripts signaling the end of the long and much awaited examination.

Ah! At long last did I hear many say? Life returns to normalcy as we await the interview segment.

## Integrity Award for Onne Port Manager



**O**n August 25<sup>th</sup> 2017, the Indigenous Contractors Association of Onne (ICAO) gave a special Honours Award of Integrity to Onne Port Manager, Alhassan Ismaila Abubakar for high profile and his professionalism in the Maritime Industry.

He has equally exhibited high confidence, having high spirit at work that has enabled him to achieve set goals and even exceed expectations.

## WILAT Outstanding Award For NPA MD



**T**he Managing Director, Hadiza Bala Usman was presented with an award of recognition and excellence by WILAT for outstanding performance in office at the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Women in Logistics And Transport [WILAT] International Conference held at the Oriental Hotel, Lagos recently.





**Sarah Ballah**  
15th October, 2017  
Head, Corp. & Strat. Comms.  
Tin Can Island Port



**Ejemeh Nchey Achukwu**  
16th October, 2017  
Head, Corp. & Strat. Comms.  
Onne Port



**Helen Chinwe Bajomo**  
24th October, 2017  
Internal Audit Dept.  
LPC



**Paul I. Erakhifu**  
28th October, 2017  
Corp. & Strat. Comms. HQ



**Adedeji Dacosta**  
27th October, 2017  
Corp. & Strat. Comms. HQ



**Hafsat Aliyu Garba**  
12th October, 2017  
Daughter of Ali Garba of  
C&SComm.Div. Marina.

## NPA MD CHARGES PROFESSIONAL WOMEN ON EFFECTIVE PERFORMANCE

**T**he Managing Director of Nigerian Ports Authority, Hadiza Bala Usman has yet again charged women professionals in the Maritime sub-sector to invest more in themselves in order to be indispensable in their fields of endeavor.

Hadiza Bala Usman gave this charge in a key note address at the opening session of the annual conference of Network for Professional Women in the Maritime and Port sector of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA) at the Oriental Hotel in Lagos.

The Managing Director pointed out that the Maritime and Port activities in the sub-region is beset with myriad of challenges ranging from decay in infrastructure to low capacity utilization, corruption, insecurity and other inefficiencies and enjoined women in the sector to initiate actions that will turn these situation for the better in the sector and to the benefit of the sub region.

While asking for increased opportunities for women in the sector, she declared; "Women sure need to have more opportunities in the sector given that only 2% of the world's Maritime workforce is made up of women, according to 2015 research by the International Transport Workers Federation".

She called on delegates to fashion out ways in which women can collectively contribute to effect the much needed change in the maritime sub-sector and the nation in general.

In their goodwill messages, the General Coordinator of Professional Women in Ports and Maritime Sector, Madam Adanlete Lawson and PMAWCA Secretary General, Mr. Michael Lueguje commended the Managing Director for her achievements so far and for the support she has given to PMAWCA over the years.

The President of Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (NACCIMA), Chief Mrs Alaba Lawson, who was represented



by the Director General, Nigerian Chamber of Shipping, Mrs Obiageli Obi also delivered a goodwill message.

The Network of Professional Women in Ports and Maritime sector is an affiliate of Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA) and the four day conference will feature discussions on successes and challenges of Port Concessioning, Change Leadership and management etc. The NPA Managing Director will also speak on Women in Executive Leadership- Challenges and Successes. Personal Experiences from West and Central Africa at the plenary session. Over 200 hundred delegates from West and Central African countries are participating in the conference.



## NPA COLLABORATES WITH FRSC ON SAFETY STANDARDS IN OPERATIONS

**T**he Managing Director of Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Hadiza Bala Usman has reiterated the commitment of the organisation to Safety Standards for all aspects of operations at the nation's Seaports.

She expressed this commitment in her remarks at the opening ceremony of a Capacity Building Workshop on Minimum Safety Standards for trucks doing business in the Ports jointly organized by the Authority and the Federal Roads Safety Corps in Lagos yesterday.

Represented by the General Manager, Health, Safety and Environment(HSE), Mr. Ahmed Yusuf, the Managing Director said that NPA will continue to collaborate with all Agencies in the Ports so as to build effective synergy that will ensure all trucks doing business in the Ports comply with the Safety Standards.



SITTING (MIDDLE) GENERAL MANAGER, HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT (NPA) YUSUF AHMED, (LEFT) BONAVENTURE NNAMANI, REPRESENTING LAGOS SECTOR COMMAND (FRSC)HYGINUS UCHE UMEJI, (RIGHT) GODWIN UMWENI, ROUTE COMMANDER (FRSC) LAGOS STATE COMMAND AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS.



The Managing Director commended the organizers of the Workshop while urging Participants to put into practice their knowledge from the Workshop.

In a welcome address, the Lagos State Sector Commander of the FRSC, Mr. Hyginus Omeje told the Participants that the issue of Minimum Safety Standards was first introduced in the Oil and Gas Sector when the

FRSC commenced the implementation of the Road Transport Safety Standards Scheme (RTSSS) which stipulates Minimum Safety Standard for Truck Operators.

Mr. Omeje who was represented by the Legal Officer of the Command, Barrister Bonaventure Nnamani lauded the Authority for the partnership and also enjoined Participants to open their minds to Safety Standards.

The Federal Roads Safety Corps delivered lectures on Traffic Laws relating to Articulated Vehicles. The Workshop also featured Safe to Load Procedures whilst highlighting the importance of Number Plates and other important accessories

concerning Minimum Safety Standards in the Ports.

Management of the Authority recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) on the implementation of Minimum Safety Standards for Trucks operating in the Ports.

The MoU empowers both NPA and FRSC to raise Joint Inspection and Certification teams to oversee its full implementation.

## RIVERS PORT: NO DELAY IN CARGO CLEARING

By Ezinne Asinobi

**T**he Port Manager, Rivers Port Mr. A. G. Umar has said that there are no delays in clearing cargo and many business prospects await Onitsha business men with the patronage of Rivers Port.

This statement was made when he was addressing the Onitsha business community on the functions, facilities, challenges and prospect of Rivers Port at the 57<sup>th</sup> Founders day celebration of University of Nigeria Alumni Association recently.

According to him, Rivers Port handles containers and doing business with the Port reduces cost because of its proximity and there are no congestions.

He also revealed that with the Onitsha Inland Port, there will be movement of cargoes with barges which is not only faster but will also create job in the area of constructing barges.



A. G. Umar  
Port Manager  
Rivers Port Complex



# ONNE PORT DONATES OFFICE EQUIPMENT TO ONNE MAGISTRATE COURT

By E. C. Umegbolu

**T**he Onne Port Manager, Alhassan Ismaila Abubakar has donated sets of office equipment's to Onne Magistrate Court, as part of NPA's Corporate Social Responsibility.

The Port Manager, who was ably represented by Hassan Abubakar while making the presentations to the Senior Magistrate of Onne Magistrate Court, said they are here on behalf of the Port Manager, and NPA Onne Port to give the items.

He said the officer items donated are out of the magnanimity of Port Manager to contribute to enhance efficient and speedy delivery of justice.

"These items will facilitate your ability to do your jobs. We extend our hand of fellowship to you, and we pray that the items will be put to good use", the Onne Port Manager stated.

He said that since the Magistrate Court that used to sit at the Onne Port Area have been merged with Onne Magistrate Court; the Port therefore

extends their hand of fellowship, in giving them support.

He said the gesture in part of NPA's Corporate Social Responsibility to Onne People, as the items will fast track the speedy delivery of justice.

The items donated to the Magistrate Court include two (2) Executive Chairs, to be used for both the Magistrate Court and the Court Room. Others are HP Laser Jet Computer Printer for office use, and a medium size standing Thermacool Refrigerator.

Receiving the items, Ibiminanyo Abel, the Senior Magistrate Grade I Officer, at Onne Magistrate Court thanked Onne Port Manager and his team for the kind gesture.

"I want to thank Onne Port Manager and NPA Onne Management for the donations. These will no doubt enhance our efficiency and capability to deliver speedy justice", the magistrate said.

"I am excited by the gifts: they will contribute to enhance our work performance, and create good



working environment. I am indeed grateful. This Port Manager is the only one that has listened to our concern, since". Onne Magistrate, Ibiminanyo Abel stated unequivocally.

While still commending NPA over the gesture, he appealed to other organizations to emulate the footsteps of NPA, by helping the Magistrate Court address more challenges.

He said judiciary will not do all that they needed, stating that delivery of justice is a collective effort. He said one of their major challenges is the poor access road to the Magistrate Court, appealing for attention and rehabilitation of their facilities.

Among those present during the presentation includes: Adukanya E. A. (Traffic Manager), Captain Femi (Habours Master), Mrs O. T. Cole (Chief Port Tarrif/Billing Officer), Mrs G. M. Bob-Manuel (Chief Estate Officer) and Umar Abdulkadir (Chief Safety Officer).

## GREECE TRADE INITIATIVE KICKS OFF IN CALABAR PORT

**C**alabar Port Management recently sought the support and cooperation of the government and good people of Cross River State in ensuring hitch-free cargo operation at the port.

Speaking during a courtesy call on the Obong of Calabar, His Eminence, Edidem Ekpo Okon Abasi Otu V, the Calabar Port Manager, Mrs. B. O. Olotu disclosed that Port Management had been holding series of talks with a Greek based Shipping consortium, Atlantic Bulk Carriers Management Limited on the need to use Calabar Port for their Calabar bound cargo, which were previously discharged in Lagos Port and trucked down to Calabar.

Mrs. Olotu delightfully informed the



By Chijoke Ukadike

Traditional Ruler that these talks had began to yield fruits with the expected arrival of MV Desert Ranger and two other large vessels.

The Port Manager who visited the Palace in company of officials of the Shipping company led by Captain Athanasios Georgopoulos, said that the new initiative would make Calabar Port vibrant again, adding that the multiplier



effect of the operations would go long way in boosting the local economy of Cross River State and touching the lives of the people.

She therefore called on the government and good people of Cross River State to support the initiative and shun any activity that might discourage the Shipping company from patronizing Calabar port.



# MEGA SHIPS RETURNS TO CALABAR PORT

It is now history that despite draft limitations, Calabar Port had successfully received MV Desert Ranger, a 200meters long and 61,000mt heavy vessel, into its berth, a few hours after the arrival of equally large MV Desert Rhapsody both owned operated by Greece based Atlantic Bulk Carriers Management (ABCM) LTD.

Many people celebrated the maiden voyage of MV Desert Ranger, but not many people knew the things that happened behind the scene before the vessel arrived.

Recall that due to the Shipping company's earlier concern about the topography and draft limitations of Calabar Port channel, they had before now been shipping their Calabar-bound cargo to Lagos and trucking same down to the end-users in Calabar.

In a bid to recover this traffic, Calabar Port management began to hold series of meetings with ABCM limited, there Agents, Maylon Ports Limited and ECM Terminal. It was during these talks that an ingenious plan was devise for the use of flat-bottom Bulk Carriers, with lower draft requirement to bring Calabar bound cargo to Calabar Port.

These talks were later escalated to the NPA Executive management levels, where all the needed approvals were given by the NPA Managing Director, Hadiza Bala Usman.

In pursuance of this planned objective, pilots from Calabar Port were eventually sent for simulation training in Greece to acquaint themselves with the maneuvering of the large vessel across Calabar Port's long and wavy channel.



By Chijoke Ukadike

Against the backdrop of an isolated incident of security threat along the port's channel, the Port Manager Calabar, Mrs. B. Olufunmilayo Olotu actually undertook a trip to Greece, to reassure the Management of ABCM Limited on security and persuade the shipping Company to patronize Calabar Port.

The Shipping company was also assured of an extra Tug boat that will compliment the existing one in the port to ease their vessel's access to Calabar port.

Spurred by the Port Manager's visit, ABCM limited assured of there commitment to regular voyages to Calabar Port and other Port development and marketing collaborations

It was on the strength of this commitment that ABCM limited recently deployed a flat-bottom, 200 meters long and 61,000MT heavy MV Desert Ranger to join relatively large MV Desert Rhapsody in Calabar Port. It was also B confirmed that another Mega Ship, MV Arriet had also been dispatched to convey cargo to Calabar.

Speaking to a gathering of stakeholders during the arrival reception of Desert Ranger, Calabar Port Manager, Mrs. B. O. Olotu confirmed that renewed effort towards the dredging of Calabar Port channel had gained some mileage, as advert publication to flag off the process was billed to come out in a couple of weeks.

According to Mrs. Olotu, "In the light of this new development, the new slogan for Calabar Port will be, "Whatever you need, just desire it and we will deliver it!"

Speaking further the Port Manager, commended her Managing Director, Hadiza Bala USMAN and other members of the executive Management for approving the deployment of an extra tug boat to facilitate the new initiative.

Many stakeholders who witnessed the development had wondered what implication it would hold for Nigerian Shippers and other shipping operators, especially taking into cognizance the shippers apathy towards Calabar Port occasioned by it channel draft limitation. Perhaps, the foremost implication is that the success of the maiden voyage of MV Desert Ranger had gone to prove that Mega ships with flat-bottom, that doesn't require deeper draft could still safely call at Port in its current state.

Calabar Port Management had taken pragmatic steps to sensitize all relevant agencies of Government on the need to maintain the highest level of professional standards, while remaining customer friendly in the discharge of their statutory functions so as to encourage more vessel traffic to Calabar Port.

## Passages



Late (Mrs.) Abosede Onah.  
Until her death she was Assistant General Duty Officer,  
at the Personnel Department, HQ.  
Aged 50.  
Died on 20th October, 2017.  
May her humble soul rest in perfect peace.





# 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:

**Lagos Ports Complex, Apapa**  
P.M.B. 1021 Apapa Lagos.  
lpcinfo@nigerianports.org

**Delta Ports, Warri**  
P.M.B. 1054, Warri  
Delta State.  
deltainfo@nigerianports.org

**Tin Can Island Port**  
P.M.B. 1201, Apapa, Lagos.  
tcipinfo@nigerianports.org

**Calabar Ports Complex, Calabar**  
New Calabar Port Complex  
P.M.B 1014 Calabar,  
Cross-River State.  
calabarinfo@nigerianports.org

**Rivers Ports, Port-Harcourt**  
Basket House, P.M.B. 5043  
Port-Harcourt -Rivers State.  
riversinfo@nigerianports.org

**Onne Port Complex, Onne**  
Onne Port Complex,  
PMB 1699 Onne  
Rivers State.  
onneinfo@nigerianports.org