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Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority

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CORONA-VIRUS

NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY RISES TO THE OCCASION

he Executive Management of Nigerian Ports Authority has been very responsive to the threat posed by COVID-19. Nigerian Ports Authority is part of the Federal Government Multisectoral Preparedness and Response Technical Sub-Committee for COVID - 19 set up by the Honorable Minister of Health.

Standard operating procedure for berthing a ship at the ports includes flying of a yellow flag by the pilot to indicate the presence of a sick person on board. Added to this protocol in lieu of Corona Virus is flying of a second yellow flag if the ship has persons on board with symptoms of COVID-19. Such ship are thus quarantined in a designated area while Ports Health activates a response which includes reporting of case to the Director of Ports Health Services and coordinating with the Lagos State Government for timely and safe evacuation to the designated isolation center in Lagos.

Deployment of passenger self-reporting forms at points of entry in the ports for screening of passengers and crew members.

Entrance/ Exit temperature checks with non-contact hand held infra-red thermometers are ongoing.

Management has procured, distributed and deployed Personal

Protective Equipments (PPEs) especially for workers in the frontline at Points of Entry Authority-wide.

Also deployed are hand sanitizers, face masks and hand gloves and other consumables to enhance hygiene practices in office and port locations. Hand washing stands have been deployed at strategic positions especially entrances to office locations, port entrances and offices to enhance hand washing practices.

Massive Sensitization of the work force, terminal operators and portusers are ongoing including training and retraining of frontline officers and staff to enhance standard hygiene practices as well as adequate response to cases.

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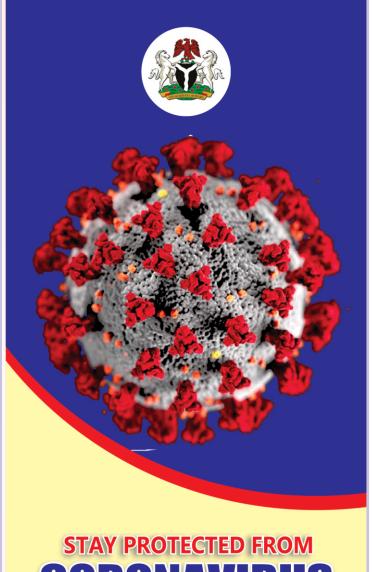
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ur March edition reports on the plans and measures put in place by the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) Management in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health and all relevant Ministries and Agencies at combating the threat of the dreaded Corona-Virus (COVID - 19) across board. Management is leaving no stone unturned to ensure safe, secure and customer endly environment.

We also report that a new Board Chairman, Chief Akin Ricketts and members have been appointed by the Federal Government to take charge of the affairs of the NPA following the dissolution of the Emmanuel Adesoye-led Board.

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Also reported is that in order to encourage the workforce improve the habit of reading expected to impact on greater Customer Service delivery, the NPA Management recently launched a book titled "The Business of Being The Best You" authored by its employees in the Readers Forum.

These as well as other news stories and our regulars are presented fresh for your reading pleasure.

Catherine Ude Editor

EDITORIAL

Adeiza Adams Jatto - Editor-In-Chief

Nasiru Ibrahim - Deputy Editor-In-Chief

Catherine Ude - Editor

Production Team:

Olusola Akosile - Production Manager

Olubiyi Omidiji

- Reporter

Ebunola Ajijala - Analysis/Intelligence

Ebere Alaezi-Offia - Protocol Gbenga Soyomi - Secretary Ali Garba Hassan - Member

Editorial Contributor: Kingsley Ukabiala

Photo Credits: Friday Eze, Paul I. Erakhifu and Bidemi Agboola

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Contributions to be sent through:npanews@nigerianports.gov.ng

Contributions are welcome from members of staff. You can send high resolution photographs of your social events like birthdays.



"To reach a port we must set sail -Sail, not tie at anchor Sail, not drift."

☐ Franklin D. Roosevelt



GENDER NOT AN OBSTACLE TO PROFESSIONALISM



he 2020 International Women's Day celebration which was themed "I Am Generational Equality": Realizing Women's Rights. #EachForEqual, focused on the impact each woman can have to create gender equal world was graciously commemorated at the Lagos Port Complex with the Port Manager, Mrs Olufunmilayo Olotu at the forefront.

Amazons who had excelled as entrepreneurs and employers of labour in the maritime industry which for a long time has been seen as a male dominated terrain were present at the event as guests of honour to enlighten and encourage the upcoming women on tactics of not only surviving but excelling in the industry.

In her opening remarks, the Port Manager, Mrs Olotu, said that the women are only asking for opportunities that are available to their male counterparts to also be given to them. She declared that women do not need to stretch themselves to prove that such jobs can be done. She further stated that women should be given ample opportunity to showcase those things that are innate to them, such as multitasking, thinking outside the box and above all the payment of attention to details.

Princess Vicky Hasstrup the (Executive Chairman of ENL Consortium Limited, a Terminal at the Lagos Port Complex), who doubled as the Chairman of the occasion and also a member of the panel of discussion on issues concerning

equality, in her address to the women present maintained that gender does not come into the equation in performance because women have all it takes to be whatever they set their heart to be. She opined that gender does not have to stand as a clog to the wheel in a woman's progress and still stressed that it is not an obstacle to professionalism. She therefore encouraged women to brace up and take their place.

A former Port Manager of Lagos Port Complex, retired Assistant General Manager, Tariff and Billing and currently the President of Women in Shipping and Trade Association (WISTA) Mrs Eunice Ezeoke, who was also a guest of honour at the event, in her own contribution as panellist said that the glass of male dominance in the maritime sector is shattering seriously because through advocacy women now occupy positions that were ordinarily believed belonged only to their male counterparts. She also gave series of examples of women who had reached their zenith in the Maritime Industry.

Stakeholders present while calling for premium emphasis on the education of the girl child and stoppage of girl child marriage believe that "when you train a girl child you training a nation", as this if done bridges the gap in gender inequality.

An appeal was also made that advocacy for equality should be a continuous one and that women should not rest on their oars until that is fully achieved.

The highlight of the day was the recognition and presentation of honorarium to some of the women who had proved themselves in the maritime industry in the same vein, the port, corps members and industrial attachees who did very well during their service year.

WE SHALL CONTINUE TO MAKE OUR PORTS ATTRACTIVE FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT - MD NPA

he Management of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) would continue to strive in making the nation's Seaports more efficient through improved operational efficiency and quality service delivery across board in order to attract investors within the sub region and beyond adding that the sector plays a significant role in the growth and development of the nation's Gross Domestic Product, it's Managing Director Hadiza Bala Usman has reaffirmed. The Managing Director represented by the Assistant General Manager Corporate and Strategic Communications, Hassan Danjuma, made this remark at the just concluded 41st Kaduna International Trade Fair organized by the Kaduna State Government and Kaduna Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Mines & Agriculture (KADCCIMA).

While congratulations the organizers for promoting trade and economic activities, she stated that this year's theme "unlocking Nigeria's Economic Potential through Regional Integration" was appropriate in view of the fact that the economic development of West Africa Region is dependent on regional trade integration.

"We in the NPA would continue to pursue programs, policies and projects which we believe would enhance the performance of our Seaports" she said.

She charged participants at the Fair for a better synergy towards boosting the nation's economy.



Managing Director Hadiza Bala Usman

NPA GETS NEW BOARD CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

hief Akin Ricketts has been appointed as the new Board Chairman of the Nigerian Ports Authority following the dissolution of the Emmanuel Adesoye-led Board.

The appointment which took immediate effect has other members as Ghazali Mohammed, Sen. John Akpanuodehe, Sen. Binta Masi Garba, Alh. Mustapha Aminu Dutse and Abdulwahab Adeshina.

Other members are Hadiza Bala Usman who remains the Managing Director, (NPA), Mohammed Bello Koko, Executive Director Finance and Administration (NPA), Professor Idris Abubakar, Executive Director Engineering and Technical Services (NPA) and Onari Brown (Executive Director Marine and Operations (NPA).



he Nigerian Ports Authority Management recently emphasized the development of its workforce to meeting best standards when it recently launched a book titled "The Business of Becoming the Best YOU" at its Corporate Headquarters Lagos.

The book authored by the Readers Forum of the Nigerian Ports Authority, is a self-help and personal development book that tells you "how to unlock the unlimited possibilities that reside in you" as it is geared towards building essential attributes through character building and personal development. In 100 concise pages with contributions from twenty two officials, the reader gets insightful tips on how to live a well-formed life across all frontiers of existence.

The Managing Director in her address at the occasion informed the gathering that the book launch was an attestation of the Management's determination at constantly improving on the human capacity of its workforce in view of the constant challenges and expectation of the maritime sector in the 21st century. The book according to her is relevant in the area of improving work ethics and skills across board with the attendant result of improving and producing optimal use of working hours.

"The reading culture in this 21st century is key for all so as not to be left behind in the scheme of things. The more we read, the more ideas we gain and the more capacity we build positively to affect our world and position our organization to meeting with the challenges that the future poses"

Hadiza commended the two prominent pioneers of the Readers Forum, Mr. Joshua Asanga a retired General Manager Marine and Operations and Mrs. Obiageli Zik-Obi a retired Principal Manager Training for their foresight in nurturing the idea of the book from the Lagos Port Complex Apapa where they had ealier served the organization.

While recommending the book, published by Cognix, an imprint of Ouida Books, to the general public the Publisher, Lola Shoneyin as well as the Reviewer, Lawretta Egba, commended the efforts of the Management and officials of the Nigerian Ports Authority in their move towards promoting the culture of continuous learning and development as well as the Nigerian reading culture.

Many industry watchers have commended the organization on this achievement and are of the belief that an improved reading habit by all would go a long way in developing better personalities, vocabulary, writing skills, confidence, ethics, interpersonal and communication skills amongst others.

FRENCH CORNER

Months of the Year Days of the week - (Les Jours de la - (Les Mois de l'année) Semaine) **Janvier** January Sunday Dimanche **February** Février Monday Lundi March Mars Tuesday Mardi April Avril Wednesday NO PIC YET Mercredi May Mai Thursday Jeudi Juin June Friday Vendredi July Juillet Saturday Samedi Août August Septembre September October Octobre November Novembre December Décembre

Health

Dr. Nwokolo Chinwe (MBBS, D.OPH, MPH) Assistant General Manager Medical Services

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All Ports are presently on high alert for COVID-19

The Management of Nigerian Ports Authority remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for its workforce and customers.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COVID-19

Patients with COVID-19 have a range of symptoms, from mild to severe respiratory illness manifesting as:

Fever (high body temperature above or equal 38C)

Cough

Sneezing Breathing difficulties.

TREATMENT

There is currently no specific antiviral treatment against COVID-19 but people with COVID-19 can seek medical care to relieve symptoms. Egypt, Algeria and Nigeria.

PREVENTION

There is presently no vaccine against COVD-19.

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds

Use an alcohol based hand sanitizer that obtains at least 60% Alcohol.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid contact with sick people. Stay at least one meter away from people who are coughing and sneezing.

Avoid spreading respiratory illness to others by:

- -Staying at home when you are sick
- -Cover your cough or sneeze with tissue and throw away in a
- -Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects or surfaces like desks, tables, telephones and keyboards of computers. Seek travel advisory before your next foreign trip.

NIGERIA'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Prior to COVID-19 in Nigeria, the multi-sectoral Coronavirus Preparedness Group had the responsibility of reviewing the situation globally, assess the risk of spread and improve on Nigeria's level of preparedness based on new findings and insights. On the 28th of February 2020, the group was escalated to the national Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) for coordinating COVID-19 response activities. The EOC has developed an incident action plan which is being implemented across the following pillars:

- 1. Coordination: The Federal Ministry of Health through the NCDC has activated a national Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) at the highest level. This multi-sectoral EOC is leading the national response for COVID-19. Till date, the NCDC has supported 23 states to set up Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (PHEOC). These will be used for coordination at state level.
- 2. Epidemiology and Surveillance: The Federal Ministry of Health has also intensified surveillance at points of entry (Lagos, Kano, Port Harcourt and FCT). A second case definition has been shared with Port Health Officials and State

epidemiologists for determining a suspect case of the disease. NCDC digital tool for surveillance, SORMAS, is being used to manage contact tracing and related activities to quickly control the spread of the disease.

- 3. Laboratory: Currently, there are four laboratories with the capacity to test for COVID-19 in Nigeria. The NCDC National Reference Laboratory; Lagos University Teaching Hospital; Irrua Teaching Hospital; and African Centre for Genomics of Infectious Diseases in Ede, Osun State. They are all in the NCDC molecular laboratory network. These laboratories are sufficiently equipped with reagents and supplies for testing.
- 4. Infection Prevention and Control: IPC guidelines and SOPs have been disseminated to treatment centres, health facilities, and health workers across the country.
- 5. Case management: There are designated treatment centres to manage laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Lagos, Kano, Port Harcourt, Enugu and FCT. The team of health care workers in these centres have been trained on the management of COVID-19 using approved SOPs and guidelines.
- 6. Risk communication: Communications has intensified on protective measures against COVID-19. Based on new knowledge on the disease, the 4th public health advisory, updated FAQs, a second case definition and other IEC materials have been published and widely disseminated.
- 7. Logistics: Pooling and mobilisation of resources particularly response commodities e.g. personal protective equipment, medical and laboratory consumables, thermometers, hand sanitizers, etc. to the affected states has commenced.

All identified contacts of the case are being monitored. The public is advised to remain calm, practice personal and respiratory hygiene measures to protect themselves. For more information on the prevention of COVID-19, you can access the NCDC coronavirus public health advisory.

CONTACT NUMBERS

08067947979

'If you see something, say something'

NIGERIA CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL - 080097000010 Toll free

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH - 08036563006 PORT HEALTH SERVICES APAPA - 08180387109

PORT HEALTH SERVICES TINCAN ISLAND - 080162204618

PORT HEALTH SERVICES RIVERS PORT

08036004751
PORT HEALTH SERVICES DELTA PORTS

08035248535
PORT HEALTH SERVICES CALABAR PORT
PORT HEALTH SERVICES ONNE PORT

GENERAL MANAGER MEDICAL SERVICES
NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY - 08033063001

-08051120158



WORKHOURRELAXATION

Vox Por

SHOULD MALE AND FEMALE CHILDREN BE TREATED EQUALLY?



es they should, in terms of imparting values, character, morals, quality education and so on.

Equal treatment for both will reduce or even eliminate the various gender issues and challenges in the society as they will both grow up having more opportunities and maximizing their full potentials in life.

OLUSILE, ADERONKE I (MRS) SERVICOM, DELTA PORTS



n my opinion male and female children being treated equally is very difficult to achieve. But treating a male and female child as an individual is more attainable and realistic. Hence I believe in giving both male and female children equality in its totality.

MADUKWE NITA CORP. & STRATEGIC COMMS., HQ



es, both children should be treated equally because, they are gifts from God. They came through same source, breastfed by same breasts. They stayed same Nine (9) Months in the womb.

They both excel in their chosen careers. We have many women who made huge impacts in their generations like their male counterparts.

UCHECHI E. BASSEY
EMPLOYEE & LAB. RELS. DEPT.
CALABAR PORT



ost of the time I think boys and girls are treated equally but, sometime people think we are not equal and treat us like that. Some people think boys are stronger, smarter and more athletic but that isn't true. It doesn't matter what gender you are, it isn't matter who you are. Personally, I think that girls don't get treated equally. Over the years, the girls have been treated more equally but not that much.

JAMA DANIEL .T.
HUMAN RESOURCES
ONNE PORT COMPLEX



am of the view that since both are the humans, male and female should be treated equally. They should enjoy equal rights and opportunities in all aspects of life. When there is gender equality, it promotes peace, strengthens family, improves democracy and reduces violence.

JULIET IGBRU (MRS)
CORPS. & STRATEGIC COMMS., DELTA PORTS



ale and female children should be treated equally because growing up I saw and watched my mother treat my brothers differently from the female children and it affected them negatively today that they can't even do anything on their own unless somebody assist them. Presently I am blessed with a boy and a girl, learning from my mother's mistake I treat both of them equally.

AKINSANYA LUCY
CORP. & STRATEGIC COMMS., HQ



ale and female children should be treated equally because they are both human and all human beings have the right to be treated equally. There is no reason why male and female children should not be treated equally or given same avenues to unleash their potential.

MOHAMMED AWWALU ABUJA LIAISON OFFICE



biblical view, I know the bible clearly state that male & female are equal before God. But I struggle with my reasoning in some dimension. In marriages for instance, the bible instructs the woman to submit to the Man. It is a common sense for one to note that it's only a subordinate that submits to the superior. The bible also puts the Man as the head of the family and not the reverse.

ONALO AUSTIN E.
PROCUREMENT, CALABAR PORT



he Public is advised on the basic question of how society treats men and women. Four-intensal society generally treats men and women equally. A slightly larger share (45%) says society favors men over women. Only 9% say society favor women over men. Attitudes have changed considerably over the past 20 years. When the Gallup organization asked this question 1993, only 23% said society generally treats men and women equally and 62% said society favors men over women.

INNOCENT OGBUEHI HUMAN RESOURCES, ONNE PORT COMPLEX



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With an increased port operational efficiency, decreased port cost and decreased financial burden on government,

Nigerian Ports, becoming the Hub of International Trade and Freighting in West and Central Africa.

Our Port Locations:

Lagos Port Complex, Apapa P.M.B. 1021 Apapa Lagos Email Address: a.aisha@nigerianports.org lpcinfo@nigerianports.org

Tin Can Island Port P.M.B. 1201, Apapa, Lagos Email Address: tcipinfo@nigerianports.org Rivers Port, Port-Harcourt Basket House, P.M.B. 5043 Port-Harcourt -Rivers State Email Address: riversinfo@nigerianports.org g.abubakar@nigerianports.org Delta Ports, Warri P.M.B. 1054, Warri Delta State Email Address: deltainfo@nigerianports.org Calabar Port Complex, Calabar New Calabar Port Complex P.M.B 1014 Calabar, Cross-River State Email Address: calabarinfo@nigerianports.org o.olotu@nigerianports.org Onne Port Complex, Onne Onne Port Complex, PMB 6199 Onne Rivers State Email Address: onneinfo@nigerianports.org I.alhassan@nigerianports.org

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Nigerian Ports Authority

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