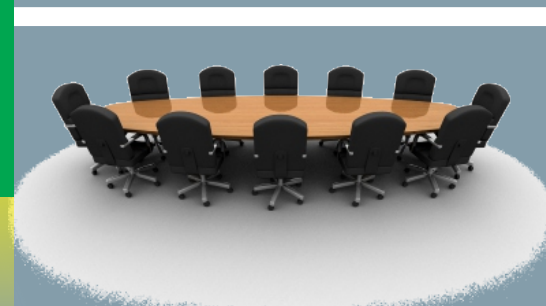




NPA

News



Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority

Vol. 3 No.34 May, 2020

AKINWUMI RICKETTS TAKES OVER AS NPA BOARD CHAIR

The Minister of Transportation, Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi has charged the newly inaugurated Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) Board, with Chief Akinwumi Ricketts as its Chairman, to ensure that trade facilitation and improved Port Management take precedence as it assumes duty.

The Minister made this call recently at the inauguration of the new Board of the Authority which held at the Ministry's board room in Abuja.

While congratulating the new Board members on behalf of President Muhammadu Buhari and the Ministry, he called on them to ensure that the Nigerian Ports are not shut but optimally utilized in the area of trade facilitation and as a thriving business environment for all stakeholders.

Amaechi stressed the need for a cordial working relationship between the Board and the Management saying, "It is important you work with the Management, it is important you realise you are not Management. You are a Board and should work together with the Management."

Responding on behalf of the members of the Board, Chief Ricketts thanked the President and the Minister for the honour bestowed on them. He pledged that the Board would discharge its duties of taking the Authority to the next level.

Quoting Ricketts, "on behalf of my colleagues on the Board, I will like to assure Mr President through you, the Minister, that we will do our utmost to ensure that his confidence in us is not misplaced and will not be abused."

"As an organisation that has been in existence since 1955 we are sure NPA will have its share of challenges and issues that need to be resolved or need immediate attention."

He assured that the Board will be fair to all in its dealings so as not to abuse the processes. The Board, he stressed, "would not consider itself as an alternative Management or be in competition with it, but would collaborate to ensure that the Mission, Vision and Strategic Objectives of NPA are achieved."

The Board according to him was ready and willing to work with the Management and Stakeholders towards confronting the challenges facing the Port Users in line the Federal Government policy on the Ease of Doing Business.

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

Also on the Board are Abdulwahab Adeshina, Sen. Binta Masi Garba, Sen. John Akpan Udoedehe, Mustapha Aminu Dutse and Ghazali Mohammed Mijinyawa.

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This edition reports the recent inauguration of the Board of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), by the Minister of Transportation, Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi.

The Board chaired by Chief Akinwumi Ricketts, is charged to improve on trade facilitation and Seaport Management in the country.

Also highlighted is the call by the NPA Managing Director, Hadiza Bala Usman, for the diversification of the nation's economy thru increase in non-oil export to fund the budget.

We also bring you update on the collaborative efforts of the NPA Management and the stakeholders in the fight against the COVID-19 scourge.

Our Health and Safety Corner gives insight into the various precautionary measures put in place by the NPA Management to ensure safety of its workforce as they partially resume duty following the easing of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown by the Federal Government of Nigeria.

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

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 Aijala - 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 are welcome from members of staff.

You can send high resolution photographs of your social events like birthdays.

NPA NewsQuote

**A SAILOR WITHOUT A
DESTINATION CANNOT
HOPE FOR A
FAVOURABLE WIND**

Archaival



THE LAST COLONIAL GOVERNOR GENERAL SIR JAMES ROBERTSON WAVING TO THE CROWD AT APAPA PORT BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE AND IS BEING SEEN OFF BY THE PRIME MINISTER, SIR ABUBAKAR TAFAWA BALEWA AND NPA GENERAL MANAGER - 1960

DIVERSIFICATION OF THE NATION'S ECONOMY..

MD NPA CALLS FOR INCREASE IN NON-OIL EXPORT

The Managing Director Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Hadiza Bala Usman, has called for the diversification of the nation's economy thru non-oil exports to earn more foreign exchange to finance the national budget.

She stated that crude oil cargo contributes the highest revenue of the Ports for the Government and in view of the reduced crude oil price and shipment, revenue expected from the Ports will be adversely reduced, hence the need to encourage local investors by increasing local production and fast track export cargo processes.

She made the call recently, while speaking at a webinar organised by BudgIT tagged: "Non-Oil Export : Disrupting Nigeria's Growth Cycle."

The NPA Chief Executive charged all to ensure that there is a greater response and implementation of the Federal Government policy on the Ease of Doing Business.

"There is need to fast track export cargo. Ease of Doing Business is important because there is need to have express documentations before export cargo reaches the Ports to avoid the items getting spoilt."

Terminal Operators, she said, "have been directed and have set up priority desk for export cargo" while "Priority window has been set up for Agro produce export."

She however regretted that in view of the fact that 75% of cargo evacuated from the Ports go through the road, there is urgent need to rejuvenate infrastructure such as Trailer parks, multimodal transportation, cargo scanners and single window platform which if provided would enhance smooth operations at the ports.

She added that the Authority has been making concerted efforts at addressing the issue of congestion through an aggressive rail deployment to link the Lagos Port Complex and Tin Can Island Port being championed by the Federal Ministry of Transport.

The NPA Helmsperson reiterated that Management has recently approved the use of barges by licensed Operators for the evacuation of cargo from the Ports and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Management of APMT Capital in this regard as well.

Furthermore, she restated that Management by way of encouraging the use of other Ports in the country aside the Lagos Ports witnessing congestion, approved discount harbour dues for vessels berthing at the Ports within Nigeria's Eastern axis. This achievement according to her is unprecedented in view of the increase in vessels berthing at the Eastern Ports. For instance, Large Vessels berth at the Onne Port, Liquefied Natural Gas Vessels berth at the Rivers Port while Flat bottom Vessels berth at Calabar Port.

She solicited for a more robust inter-agency collaboration between the NPA and other Agencies operating in the ports such as the Federal Ministry of Works towards the provision of road construction to facilitate the swift evacuation of Cargo to the hinterland from the Ports, in addition to Scanners and the Single Window project by the Nigerian Customs Service and its supervisory Federal Ministry of Finance towards the eradication of human interface at the Ports to reduce time wasting and other forms of encumbrances at the nation's seaports.



Hadiza Bala Usman

TOWARDS IMPROVED EFFICIENCY:

MD NPA COMMISSIONS WORLD CLASS ULTRA MODERN CRANES



Maritime Stakeholders have been assured of the dogged determination of the Federal Government at providing enabling framework and environment for investment opportunities to thrive in Nigeria, arising from sustained partnership and synergy with all in the sector towards providing efficient operations and service delivery across board.

The Managing Director Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Hadiza Bala Usman, made this assurance recently at the Commissioning of 2 pieces world-class ultra modern Mobile Harbor Cranes (MHCs) by the Management of APM Terminals at the Lagos Port Complex.

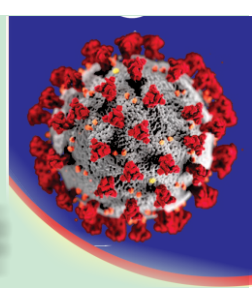
The NPA Chief Executive, while stressing that the benefits of the maritime sector to the growth of the nation's economy were enormous to be ignored, stated that with the commissioning of these Cranes, the APM Terminals has demonstrated its preparedness in promoting quality services to its clients in view of the increase in the volume of cargo traffic into the country.

This increase she enthused was as a result of the conducive business environment and favourable business policies of the Federal Government, at making the Nigerian Ports attractive for Investors, some of which include; closure of the land borders that has curbed diversion of vessels to neighbouring countries, improved trade facilitation, diversification of the economy and stabilization of foreign exchange amongst others.

Investigation by the online crew reveals, that the commissioning of the new Cranes was part of the APM Terminals' 2020-2021 Investment plan of upgrading its infrastructure in the Lagos Port Complex to meeting its Operational challenges in the competitive world of Shipping.

COVID-19:

NPA, STAKEHOLDERS COLLABORATE



The Management of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), at the various Port locations, has collaborated with its Terminal Operators, Host Communities, In-House Unions and other Stakeholders in the fight against the spread and impact of COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria.

The Ports and the Stakeholders donated several food items as palliatives to the host communities as well as Personal Protective Equipments (PPEs), hand sanitizers, face masks, hand gloves, vitamin drugs, and other items to enhance hygiene practices in the offices and port environment.

The donations according to the various donors were part of their Corporate Social Responsibilities geared towards being responsive entities in their areas of operations. The fight they said cannot be left for NPA alone as COVID-19 pandemic is real and one of the world's worst health challenges and an enemy to economic growth.

The Port Managers thanked the donors and while pledging judicious use of the items implored all hands to be on deck to collectively fight the pandemic.



Health and Safety

COVID-19...



NPA SANITIZES HEADQUARTERS BUILDING TOWARDS PARTIAL RESUMPTION OF WORKFORCE

In the wake of partial duty resumption amidst the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown relaxation, by the Federal Government of Nigeria, the Management of the Nigerian Ports Authority recently embarked on the Sanitization/Fumigation of its Corporate Headquarters and locations as part of several precautionary measures taken toward the protection of the lives of its employees.

In an official letter signed by the General Manager Security, Olugbenga Omotoso, all Essential Duty personnel were directed to temporarily vacate their offices/beats to allow for the execution of this crucial exercise on the assigned date whilst soliciting for support from all concerned.

In the same vein, a memo from the General Manager, ICT, Obumneme Onuenyenwa, in compliance with the social/physical distancing as a way of enhancing individual and collective safety of the workforce encourages the maximum use of the Unified Communication System (UCS) and the Panasonic Intercom handsets deployed in various offices for effective communication. The basic features of the equipment, he said, include audio and video conference calls with up to nine participants so that meetings and conferences can be held without leaving one's office. This he reiterated, limits physical contact to only the essentials.

In a related development and in line with the heightened surveillance in Nigeria for COVID-19 cases, the Management in a memo signed by the General Manager Medical Services, Christiana Akpa, notified its employees about the creation of "Online Health Teams" to facilitate phone consults and limit physical visits or shorten time spent at NPA clinic facilities Authority-wide.

She stated that, "Employees who have High Fever or any symptoms of COVID-19 are encouraged to initiate consultation by making WhatsApp calls to any of the under listed for further direction."



NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY

General Manager Medical Services: 08033063001

Lagos: Dr. Nwokolo 08033234842, Dr. Ezeudo 08022238783,
Dr. Orelu 8033126724, Dr. Guobadia 08033029395,
Dr. Nkem 08023134753, Dr. Abubakar 08033331804,

Calabar: Dr. Datong 08186001841, Dr. Muzda 08092717339

Delta: Dr. Ali 07033817419;

Rivers/ Onne: Dr. Agbo 08033318037; Dr. Dauda 08138075131.

WORK HOUR RELAXATION

Vox Pop

WHAT EVENT DURING THE COVID-19 LOCKDOWN WOULD REMAIN MEMORABLE IN YOUR MIND?



The first day of the lockdown my colleague and I were wrongfully 'detained' on our way to work. Despite being on essential services and we are exempted from the lockdown our plea fell on deaf ears. We were held until a superior police officer came around and ordered our release.

Sylvanus Musa
Security Dept.
Lagos Port Complex



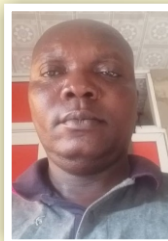
I was bewildered by the high handedness of the Rivers State COVID-19 Lockdown Enforcement Team led by the State Governor, when while on essential duty, I ran into them. Despite presenting my 'essential duty permit' to the team, on the orders of the Governor, I was speedily arrested and taken to the Isolation centre. The matter was eventually resolved by the Management.

Chigozie Morah
ICT Dept.
Rivers Port Complex



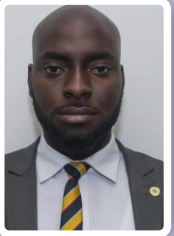
The events are, having enough time with my family, meditating on the word of God, teaching them how to cook really well, watching awesome movies and reading amazing books together.

Enydiya Godwin-Otti
Audit Dept.
Onne Port Complex



The poor economy whereby many people could not pursue their livelihood leading to hunger and increase in crime. A robbery gang called "one million boys" terrorised my area making the residents to organise vigilante groups to protect our community. Unfortunately, we lost four men when the robbers struck. This was traumatic and unforgettable as it could have been me.

Oyeleye Olajide
Fire Service Dept.
Lagos Port Complex



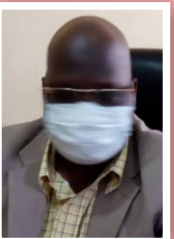
It is memorable during the COVID-19 lockdown I attended a virtual Birthday party on Zoom App. The celebrant had to send the food, drinks and cake via a mobile food delivery service. We had lots of fun whilst observing social distancing and keeping safe.

Nwachukwu Eze
Legal Dept.
Delta Ports Complex



The events are uncountable deaths around the world, deserted roads, people complaining bitterly about their inability to go to church/mosque, wearing face mask, washing hands endlessly, using hand sanitizer always, our children not being able to go to school and the high rate of people losing their sources of livelihood.

Innocent Ogbuehi
HR Dept.
Onne Port Complex



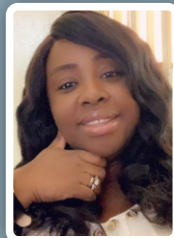
The COVID-19 lockdown in Rivers State and the unilateral action of the State Government with total disregard for essential services providers remains a sad one. It was unimaginable to see health care workers threatened, arrested and humiliated in public despite being issued with "valid pass" by the Federal Government. I fervently pray for an end to these sufferings.

Dr Salihu Dauda
Medical Dept.
Rivers Port Complex



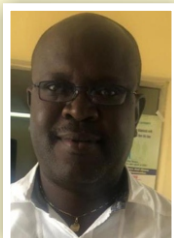
The lockdown period gave me ample opportunity to quest and reconnect with my cherished erstwhile teachers who impacted so positively on me.

Othman Mahmud
ICT Dept.
Abuja Liaison Office



I thought it would be hard to engage in productive activities while on lockdown at home. However, putting resources at my disposal to use, I spent a lot of time on YouTube, watching videos on life coaching and food/drink (Coctail) recipes. I also discovered that most Harvard University Masterclass lectures are posted on YouTube. It was quite intriguing, attending Harvard lectures online for free.

Cynthia Abimaje
Audit Dept.
Abuja Liaison Office



Ordinarily I would not sit at home with my wife sorting chaff from raw bean grains but this time due to the lockdown, I had to assist in doing this and other 'important' home chores.

Michael Ayaunor
Land & Asset Admin. Dept.
Delta Ports Complex



Capt. Jerome Angyunwe
Marine & Operations HQ
27th May



Catherine Ude
C&SC Div. HQ
Editor NPA News
30th May



Ikechukwu Onyemekara
C&SC Div. HQ
TA Protocol to MD
25th May



Asein Marie
Calabar Ports Complex
3rd May



Rosemary Dafit
Accounts Dept. (HQ)
27th May



Olamobisi Robert
HR Dept. (HQ)
5th May



Agnes Raphael B.
Security Dept.
Abuja Liaison
5th May



Ngini Franca
ICT (LPC)
14th May



Gladys Green
Tarrif & Billing (HQ)
12th May



Olayinka Joshua
Marine & Operations (HQ)
3rd May



Queen Edet
C&SC Div. HQ
MD's Office
2nd May



Babatunde Ogunsanya
Traffic Dept.
(Servicom) Rivers Port
15th May



Adekunle Dada
HR Ops (LPC)
23rd May



Maureen Ogonna
Tarrif & Billing (HQ)
16th May



Ogoloma Chima
Procurement Dept.
TCIP
1st May



Lilian Onyekwere
Audit Dept. (HQ)
28th May



Francisca Orjiugo
Procurement (LPC)
23rd May



Kafayat Mohammed
Security Dept.
Abuja Liaison
7th May



Zainab M. Dan'tiye
Admin. Dept.
Abuja Liaison
30th May



Ajiboye Olajumoke
Accounts Dept.
Lagos Port Complex
5th May

Welcome Onboard...



The Management and Staff of
NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY

felicitate with

THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

May your inauguration usher in a pleasant
new beginning in NPA



...Anchored on Service Excellence