



NPA

News

Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority

Vol. 4 No.38

September, 2020

REPOSITIONING NIGERIAN PORTS AS THE MARITIME HUB OF WEST AFRICA

Nigeria is strategically located geographically, it is situated at the very junction connecting the West and Central Africa Republics, making the nation a natural hub where cargoes for the other regions could arrive and further be redistributed to the other sections and Sub-regions.

It should be recalled that certain countries recently claimed to be in the lead towards being hub of the region. However, the place of logistics network in the determination of the hub of Maritime operations in the West African Sub-region cannot be over emphasized. The current Management of Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) have really devoted a lot of efforts at encouraging a seamless and integrated transportation system.

In her efforts to encourage enhanced trade facilitation, the Management of the NPA assisted stakeholders and ports users to establish intermodal integration of the transport system having realized that the road had become bad as a result of pressure and lack of discernible alternative. Management encouraged the use of barges to move cargoes from Lagos Ports to terminals and bonded terminals within Lagos to ease the pressure on the roads.

In the same vein, NPA in synergy with the management of the Nigerian Railway Corporation encourages the reactivation and the reconnection the rail lines to the ports for easy lifting of cargoes meant for the hinterland in line with the global best practice towards decongesting ports and effective trade facilitation.

One of the cardinal programmes of the current NPA Management is the continuous upgrade of relevant infrastructure at the ports across the length and breadth of the nation.

Among the national factors that puts Nigeria at advantageous position for the hub of the sub-region is the over 800 kilometers of coastline which makes the nation contiguous to the sea for easy traffic of ships.

Similarly, Nigeria alone has six (6) Port locations strategically distributed along the Southern axis of the nation, while all the ports are equipped with modern facilities not all the ports are busy, which gives room for more activities to further position the country to achieve her aims.

Also, about five (5) Deep Seaports are already in the process of increasing the country's Throughput and Turnaround time of cargo. These are Olokola, Badagry, Bakassi, Ibom and the Lekki Deep Seaports and the last two are most likely to be ready within the next two years.

One of the most attractive factors which makes Nigeria a major candidate as the hub, is the huge market buoyed up by a large population of enviable manpower, both skilled and unskilled almost in equal proportion.

The appropriate distribution of Inland Container Depot (ICD) at the geo-political zones of the country in order to allow for quick turnaround of vessels is an added advantage, this is to help businessmen to receive their cargoes at an ICD close to their markets.

Finally, only last month Nigeria demonstrated her strong resolve to be the hub of Maritime activities in the Sub-region when she successfully berthed the largest container vessel to ever visit the West African Sub-region at the Onne Port, Rivers State. This was an eloquent testimony to the fact that Nigeria is well positioned and prepared to assume the position of the hub of Maritime trade in the West African Sub-region.

What's Inside?

WORLD MARITIME DAY CELEBRATIONS...

AMAECI KICKS, ENJOINS
STAKEHOLDERS
TO FIGHT AGAINST
FINANCIAL CRIMES

- Pg. 3

NIGERIA TO SUPPORT REGIONAL
MARITIME DEVELOPMENT BANK
PROJECT... - AMAECI

- Pg. 4

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

APARTMENT SAFETY FOR
RENTERS (TENANTS)

- Pg. 5

VOX POP:

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO CURB THE
INCESSANT ACCIDENT OF
UNLATCHED CONTAINERS ON
TRUCKS, FALLING ON OUR ROADS?

- Pg. 6

From the Editorial Suites



This edition reports that, besides Nigeria being strategically located geographically for the position of Maritime hub of West Africa, the Federal Government through the Management of the Nigerian Ports Authority, is leaving no stone unturned in its systematic repositioning efforts to boost efficient port operations and trade facilitation services.

Highlighted also is the call by the Honourable Minister of Transportation, Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi, at the 2020 World Maritime Day celebrations, for all Maritime Agencies and Stakeholders to join hands in the fight against financial crimes in the sector.

Our other news stories and regulars are also presented for your reading pleasure.

While thanking you, our esteemed readers for your continued loyalty, I am delighted to inform you that, as I assume a higher responsibility in the service of the organisation, from next edition, Olusola Adesanwo, is our new Editor and solicit your continued support.

Thank you and God bless us all.

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 - Senior Staff Writer
Ebunola Aijjala - Reporter (People & Events)
Ebere Alaezi-Offia - Reporter (Travels & Tourism)
Bidemi Agboola - Photography

SECRETARIAT:

Gbenga Soyomi (Secretary)
Ali Garba Hassan

Editorial Contributors: Kingsley Ukabiala, 'Sola Adesanwo
Photo Contributors: Friday Eze and Paul I. Erakhiful

Production of the Corporate and Strategic Communications Division
Available on www.nigerianports.gov.ng and in emails of all officers/staff of NPA.

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.



NPA NewsQuote

Of all the things that man has made, none is so full of interest and charm, none possesses so distinct a life and character of its own, as a ship.

- Henry Van Dyke



Archival



ARCHIVAL



The visiting British Ports Executive Director, Mr. Stevenson and his wife with the NPA Board Members and senior European officials in 1958

2020 WORLD MARITIME DAY CELEBRATIONS...

AMAECHE KICKS, ENJOINS STAKEHOLDERS TO FIGHT AGAINST FINANCIAL CRIMES



The Honorable Minister of Transportation Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi has charged Maritime Stakeholders and the general public to put all hands on deck and explore all relevant laws in the country, in the fight against various forms of financial crimes presently being perpetrated by a few group in the sector, especially in the area of Secure Anchorage of the nation's waterways, in view of the pivotal role the sector plays in the growth and development of the nation's economy. No responsible sector, he stressed, would fold its arms and allow a few to benefit from the resources that are meant for the nation's use.

The Honorable Minister made these remarks in Lagos recently, at the opening ceremony of the 2020 World Maritime Day with the theme: "Sustainable Shipping For A Sustainable Planet: The Nigerian Dimension" organized by the Federal Ministry of Transportation.

According to Amaechi, the responsibility of taking the sector to the next level should not be borne by the Ministry alone, instead if this crisis amongst many others in the sector, is nipped in the bud swiftly, the nation and individuals doing business in the country would benefit in the area of reduction in the cost of Doing Business in the country arising from the illegal collection of tolls on our waterways.

The Honorable Minister of State for Transportation, Senator Gbemisola Saraki, while welcoming Stakeholders to the event, charged all to take full advantage of the unique opportunity to make meaningful contributions towards the growth of the Maritime sector. She recalled that the annual event is organized across the globe to finding a meaningful forum to discuss Shipping, Security and Protection of Marine Environment. Hence, this year's theme she said, is apt since it would give a window for raising awareness of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and showcase the work of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and Member States at achieving its targets.

Declaring the event open the Special Guest of Honour, who is, the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals, Princess Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire, informed the gathering that the President Muhammadu Buhari led Administration, is willing to support the sector in view of its role in the socio economic growth of Nigeria. She stated that, "The Maritime sector generates revenue both on land and on sea, as Shipping and Port play crucial roles in boosting Maritime trade, providing

opportunities for increased employment and wealth."

The Special Assistant stressed that with the 17 SDGs in place, Government was assured of putting an end to poverty, safeguarding of the planet and most importantly, making people enjoy peace and prosperity by the year 2030.

The Chief Host at the occasion and Governor of Lagos State, His Excellency, Babajide Sanwo Olu, represented by his Deputy, Femi Hamzat, in his remarks, succinctly highlighted the critical role the sector plays in the life of a nation.

According to him, this year's theme could not have come at a better time than now, stating that the Lagos state Government was serious and has channelled available resources towards optimizing the full potentials of the sector through the collaboration with the Federal Government for the use of badges to facilitate its water transportation scheme for the transfer of goods within the state, in view of the congestion being faced in the nation's seaports.

The National Assembly through the Senate Committee on Maritime Transportation represented by Senator Tolu Odebiyi, who stood in for the Chairman, Senator Danjuma Goje, stated that the House was willing to formulate policies to facilitate the growth and development of the sector, stating that, the theme was apt in view of the crisis being faced by the sector arising from the coronavirus pandemic.

In a related development the House of Representatives Chairman on Maritime Safety, Education & Administration, Honourable Lynda Ikpeazu, charged all stakeholders on the need to redouble their efforts by investing in the security of the waterways.

Present also at the event were the Board Members of the Nigerian Ports Authority, led by its Chairman Chief Akin Ricketts, Chairman Ship Owners Forum, Margaret Orakwusi, President Association of Marine Engineers and Surveyors, Engineer Yinka Okunade and President, Women International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA), Mrs Eunice Ezeoke amongst other dignitaries.

KORO NA VIRUS

Stealthy you sneaked in
through the backdoor,
the feared hydra headed
monster
your name makes all shiver.

Koro Na Virus!
we rolled out tanks
brought special forces
yet you glided across
borders undetected.

Koro Na Virus!
Machine guns, CCTV
and all the bombs
developed cold feet.

Koro Na Virus!
From East to West
from North to South
your vicious sting brings
cold shiver on high and
powerful.

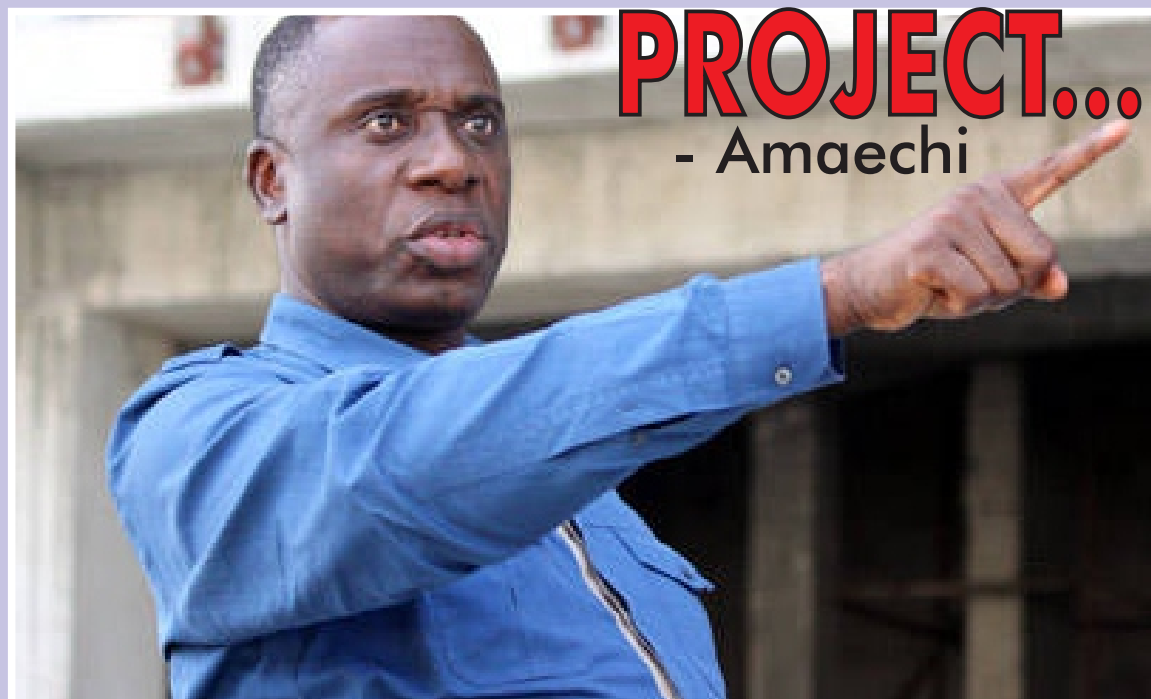
Koro Na Virus!
Effortlessly corona corrode
crowns
entered great places in
spite of armed sentinels
sends kings and princes on
errand to medical
specialists
who themselves are choked
for lack of antidotes.

Koro Na Virus!
Even those in crevice of
rock
you arrested and
regimented
our dragnets and snares
you evaded easily.

Koro Na Virus!
Our hearts and eyes
have become heavy
from mourning, for
the graves are now
bloated and obese.

Koro Na Virus!
We know, yes we accept
the world will never be the
same again
but your game is up
the drug is near
to kick you out
finally and forever.
succor and lasting respite
will return to humanity
again.

NIGERIA TO SUPPORT REGIONAL MARITIME DEVELOPMENT BANK



The Honourable Minister of Transportation, Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi has informed the Maritime stakeholders and the general public of the intention of the Federal Government at embarking on the Regional Maritime Development Bank project if two third of the Member States accept and agree to the decision reached by the Maritime Organisation of West And Central Africa (MOWCA).

The Honourable Minister made this disclosure during the opening of the meeting of Members of MOWCA Committee of experts on the Regional Maritime Development Bank Project And Interim Board of Directors held recently in Lagos.

Reports monitored and gathered by our In-House online newsletter crew, indicate that Member Countries of the MOWCA had identified the major deficits in the development of indigenous participation in the regional Maritime sector and associated value chain.

The Minister further disclosed that, discussions at the meeting centred on the need to establish a Maritime Bank which would focus on the growth and development in West and Central Africa with a view to raising debt and equity capital, as he said, "the Federal Government via the Federal Ministry of Transportation is mandated to take all necessary steps to bring the bank to actualisation."

He reiterated that, decision reached at the meeting centred on the need for swift collaboration and synergy amongst member nations for improved membership and realisation of the project in view of its benefits to all.

"Any decision reached at the end of the meeting would not be taken to Nigeria's President until other Member States indicate interest in working to be part of the project which would develop the Maritime sector in Africa."

"Whatever decision we reach here is subject to approval and confirmation of every Member State in writing. I will not take every decision reached here to the President until I have a buy in of 2/3 of the member organisation."

Maritime Stakeholders have applauded this development spear headed by the Authorities of the Nation's Maritime Agencies. They are of the view that with this development, there would be a positive development in the sector in Nigeria and the entirety of the African region.

Nigeria they opined would be placed in the vantage position of positioning herself in its rightful place in the world maritime sector .

Health and Safety



APARTMENT SAFETY FOR RENTERS (TENANTS)

As a renter, your safety concerns are unique. You live in an apartment building or complex that is owned by a landlord or property manager. Naturally, you might assume that building security is taken care of. But when it comes to your own safety, don't.

Living in close quarters to other tenants means you see a higher volume of foot traffic around you.

1. Close your blinds

Windows are more than a way for you to appreciate the view from inside. They also provide opportunities for unwanted guests to look in.

Many burglars spend time staking out their target before striking, and this act includes watching and waiting. If you like to leave your blinds open when you're not home, this provides an opportunity for potential burglars to figure out where you keep your valuables and when you're away.

Make sure you do your part to protect your home and valuables by closing the blinds when you leave for the day and when you turn in at night.

2. Make sure all windows close fully and locks work

Good window locks keep intruders from gaining easy access to your home. This is especially true for windows on the ground level, but all windows should be checked.

Treat all windows as potential entry points, and make sure locks work properly and cannot be manipulated from the outside.

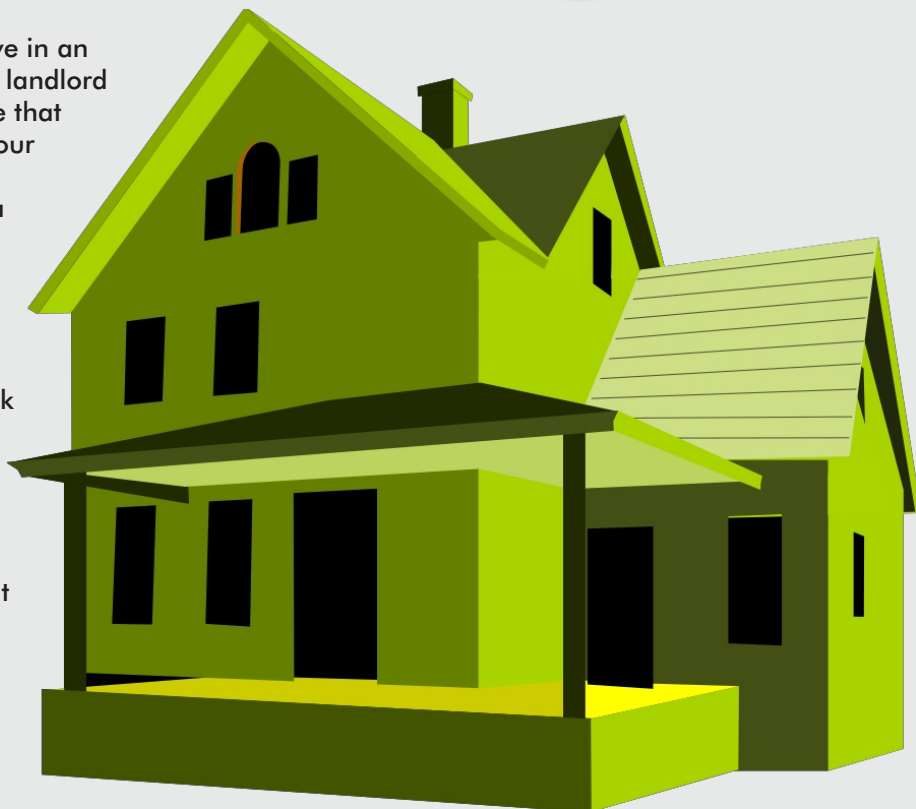
3. Lock up after yourself

It's no use checking that all the locks work if you don't make use of them. Always make sure to lock your front door and all windows before you leave your apartment - even if you're only taking out the trash or checking the mail.

4. Be mindful of common areas

When touring the apartment before you sign the lease, watch the entrances and exits to the common areas. Ideally, they should only be accessible with a resident's key.

Also check for loiterers during the day. Many burglaries occur during day time hours when residents are away for the day.



WORK HOUR RELAXATION

Vox Pop

What can be done to curb the incessant accident of unlatched containers on trucks, falling on our roads?

At the port level, trucks without the required gadgets for latching should not be allowed into, nor unlatched cargoes out of the Port. Road Safety Corps and other enforcement agencies should impound defaulting trucks and prosecute defaulters.

Enas Chinwe

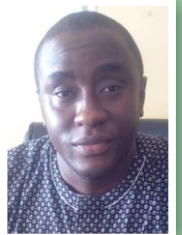
Environment Dept., Rivers Port Complex



To curb the menace, there should be a law by the Government prohibiting all truck drivers from unlatching their containers, loaded or unloaded. Thereafter, they should "ensure strict enforcement" by appropriate agencies to impound and prosecute the trucks and the drivers that unlatch containers.

John Progress Ezemonye

Accounts Dept., Delta Ports Complex



The following should be done to curb the incessant accident of unlatched containers falling on our roads: Truck drivers should be educated on the importance of safety, Federal Road Safety Corps should be at alert and do their jobs efficiently and the Federal and the State Governments should provide good roads free of potholes and other dangers.

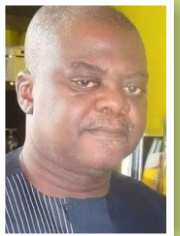
Umoh Emmanuel

Engineering (Elect) Dept. Delta Ports Complex

The three things to do are: Sanctions! Sanctions! Sanctions! You have to sanction the terminal where the defaulting truck loaded from, Sanction the agent that employs the services of such truck and sanction the truck owner and driver. Without serious sanctions the problem can never be solved in Nigeria.

Engr. Ejeh Joseph

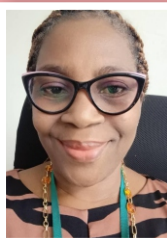
Safety Dept., Rivers Port Complex



To be curb this menace, Ports Management should ensure that all laden trucks leaving the Port meet the minimum operating standard for trucks. Each truck must have latching facilities, good braking systems as well as certified capable and experienced drivers. Federal and State Governments must fix the bad roads across the country to minimize the fatality and losses arising from road accidents.

Funmilayo Lorenmikan

Servicom Dept., Calabar Port Complex



Unlatched Container trucks road accidents are caused by dilapidated roads and lack of enforcement on policy guiding the truckers. To curb this menace; construction of viable and quality roads, should be Government's priority and there should be a policy guiding the Terminal Operators, truck drivers and enforcement agencies on stacking of containers on trucks.

Mispah Oba

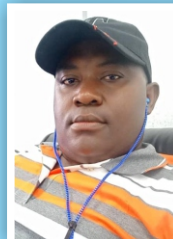
C & SC Dept., Onne Port Complex



The roads should be properly constructed by federal and state governments. The disobedience of truck drivers should be checked by the government enacting stiff penalties on reckless and offending drivers. Road worthiness of trucks making them properly latched for carrying of containers should be strictly enforced.

Odekunle O. Tunde

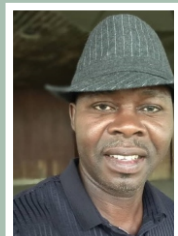
Security Dept., Lagos Port Complex



The roads must be free of all hazards and Government to consider dedicating special lanes for trucks. Truck drivers must not drive under the influence of drugs, alcohol, fatigue and must be skilled with appropriate license. Containers must be properly monitored to ensure that they are properly latched to the trucks with bolts and nuts. Policies and guidelines must be put in place so that sanctions and punishments be given to offenders.

Innocent Ogbuehi

HR Dept., Onne Port Complex



Appropriate measures should be put in place to check such occurrences. These may include but not limited to the following: A monitoring team should be in all appropriate locations, unlatched containers should not be allowed to access the ports, Container Terminals should ensure that all containers exiting their terminals are properly latched and adequate fines should be imposed on defaulters.

Fiemotongha E. Isaac

Security Dept., Lagos Port Complex



A combination of these measures will help to curb this menace: preventive, enforcement and logistic companies providing the rightful container latching gadgets on container trucks. Intensified public enlightenment campaigns and trainings on road safety by relevant agencies and also, Enforcement agencies should work in synergy with the Vehicle Inspection Officers (VIO) unit to ensure that trucks and their drivers are subjected to necessary standard tests and certification.

Dangana Mohammed Sarki

Procurement (Stores) Dept., Calabar Port Complex



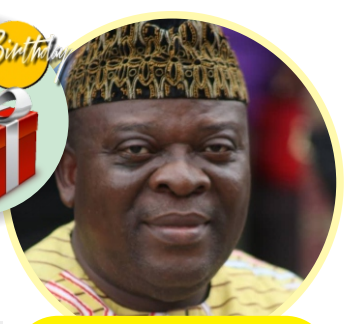
Chinwe Abama
8TH September
SERVICOM DIV. HQ



Harirat Mohammed
9th September
HUMAN RESOURCES DIV. HQ



Edward Kabir
25TH September
ABUJA LIAISON OFFICE



Elisha B. Usoro
5th September
C&SP DIVISION, HQ



Mohammed Kolo
26TH September
AUDIT DIVISION, HQ



Edosomwam Anthony
28th September
SUPERANNUATION DIV, HQ



Lilian Abi-Bassey
11th September
AUDIT DIV. HQ



Gladys Olubunmi Odebunmi
14th September
TRAINING DEPT, HQ



Mercy Ihenacho
12th September
LEGAL SERVICES DEPT. HQ



Effiong Asanam
25th September
DOCKYARD



Abdullahi Yahaya Bawa
13th September
AUDIT DIVISION, HQ



Onifade Adewunmi
12th September
TRAINING DEPT, RIVERS PORT



Umma Nasir Yahaya
8th September
C&SC DIVISION, SPL



Omowunmi Olayokun
21st September
SECURITY DIVISION, HQ



Oje Elijah
30th September
HR OPERATIONS



Ngozi Nne Obichere
24th September
HR OPERATIONS, HQ



Josephine Effiong
15th September
AUDIT DIVISION, LPC



Abolarin J. Sade
29th September
TRAINING DEPARTMENT, HQ



Ebere Alazi-Offia
7th September
C&SC DIVISION, HQ



Adeleye Olanrewaju
7th September
C&SC DIVISION, HQ



We believe **TIME** is of more value than money.

With quick turn round time of vessels which is evident in our increased port operational efficiency, coupled with decreased port cost, the **Nigerian Ports Authority** is living to expectation in its mission at delivering Efficient Port Service in a Safe, Secure and Customer-friendly Environment.

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



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:
ticipinfo@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

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
laihassan@nigerianports.org

Delta Ports, Warri
P.M.B. 1054, Warri
Delta State
Email Address:
deltainfo@nigerianports.org

NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY

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



Nigerian Ports, emerging Hub in West and Central Africa.

www.nigerianports.gov.ng