



NPA

News

Eid
MUBARAK

From
NPA
News



Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority

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NPA



INSISTS ON MINIMUM STANDARDS (MSS) FOR TRUCKS

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The Management of the Nigerian Ports Authority has reiterated its determination at ensuring that Minimum Safety Standard (MSS) for trucks doing business within the nation's Seaports under the premise of the newly launched "Eto" effective July, 2021 are strictly adhered to.

According to reports monitored by the on line news crew, the action is aimed at further bringing sanity and curbing incessant break down of trucks within the Port corridors.

To this end, the Authority in conjunction with the Lagos State Government has concluded that only trucks adjudged to have met the MSS requirements and issued a certificate would be allowed the use of the "Eto platform"

Management whilst soliciting for the cooperation of all stakeholders and port users urged them to see the measure as a positive step towards eradicating gridlock at the nation's Port and most especially maintenance of safety of lives and property.





Further to Management efforts at improving operations around the Lagos Port corridors the authority has insisted on the implementation on Minimum

Safety Standard (MMS) for trucks operating along Apapa axis forthwith.

Our interview page this month features Mrs Patricia Abohw who did not only excel administratively but also on the field of sports as she bids farewell to her friends and colleagues in the organisation.

Also in this edition we continue on our serialization on the issue of LEAVE from the condition of service.

All our usual regulars are also featured in this edition even as we wish our friends and colleagues success in their promotion examinations.

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Contributions are welcome from members of staff.

You can send high resolution photographs of your social events like birthdays, marriages, burials, etc.

NPA News *Quote*

Thought is the wind,
Knowledge the sail, and
Mankind the vessel

- August Hare



FROM THE
ARCHIVE



Old Broad street, 1960

I WANT TO IMPLORE MANAGEMENT TO DO MORE FOR SPORTS IN NPA

Can you please introduce yourself?

Thank you very much, my name is Mrs. Patricia Alero Abohw.

Congratulations on your retirement, how do you really feel today?

I cannot Thank God enough, because he is a good God, he has done marvelously well for me. So, I should be grateful and thankful everyday of my life.

How has it been in NPA for 33years?

Like I told someone a few days ago, that if I go to the street and starts rolling for God, they will say "that woman is mad". Meanwhile, I'm not mad, I'm just expressing my joy and my thanks unto God because he has done marvelously well.

When you look back at your time in NPA for 33years, what has been your memorable period in NPA?

You know there are memorable and difficult moments in the life of a man, but we beg God to give us wisdom and shock absorber, but I want to thank God for his wisdom. You know when I got this job in NPA, I was coming to Marina with one of my colleagues, we took this "gbadi gbadi" boat, and when we were going back one of the women started arguing with the boat pilot, the man said and I quote "ma da yin so mi o". I will overturn the boat You know; I don't know how to swim, so I told my colleague "you know how to swim, so immediately he 'dawa so mi', just pick me up and swim out", but I thank God he did not do that, he just threatened us that day.

When I was posted to Portharcourt, You know the mentality then was why should they post a woman to the outer port and a friend came and said I should go and write a petition, I said, "No, I will never be a petition writer, it is not good to write petition", and I enjoyed the place.

What did Portharcourt change in your Life?

Many things, I broadened my view about life, that in life you have to take it easy; step by step.

How many departments have you served in all ?

I want to thank God that I've worked in three divisions, four departments; Human Resources Division; I worked in Training Department and Performance Management Department, then I worked in Supernuation and Investment Division as the AGM Investment and Lastly Servicom Division as the general manager and I want to thank God for his mercies. I want to thank God that I went through all these places to work, it broadened my view about life once again and I learnt a lot.

Madam, you are known as Mama Sports; What led to this Appellation?

I want to thank God for Late Princess Miebaka Anita



- PATRICIA ALERO ABOHW

Princewill, cause I was just sitting down one day and she called for me and when I got to her office she said "Pat", I answered "Ma", "I want to make you the Secretary General of Sports Association of NPA. Can you you do it? I answered "yes Ma, I'll try", and since 1997, I've been in NPA sport, so for about 20years, I was the Secretary General, I became the Vice Chairman just about 5years ago, it was during my administration that NPA registered and joined Federation of Public Service Games (FEPSGA) and ever since then we've been making waves in sports in this country. Anytime NPA attends that festival we normally come out tops, to God be the glory.

Could that mean that you were once a sportsperson yourself?

By the special grace of God, I'm a sportswoman. I'm an athlete and I played table tennis, and I've won many medals for NPA. I want to thank God for my life in NPA, and being Mama sports and I'm proud to be Mama sports for NPA, and I want to thank the present management for the renovations they did in Bode Thomas and some of the sports grounds in the Ports, and I want to say "Oliver Twist always asked for more", I want to implore management to do more that they shouldn't allow sports to die in NPA. The sportsmen and women of NPA; I want to beg them that they shouldn't allow sports to die. That the sponsorship of sports should continue and I pray the Lord will help them. Thank you.

Now that you're leaving, you've spent 33years, and you've gathered a lot of experience, worked with a lot of people, how do you want to counsel young officers, what will you tell them?

I will tell them to be contentious in whatever they are doing and that they should learn to study their boss. "If you study your boss you'll know his/her do's and don'ts so as not to offend him, you would do whatever he/she wants if you study him well".

I want to say that you shouldn't envy or be jealous of anybody in life, because God has time for everybody so your time will come and when your neighbor is being promoted be happy with him or her and tell God, say "God I'm happy for him kindly remember me too", and God will surely remember you.

In any situation you find yourself be calm, don't be in a rush to take any decision, and I want to say if you are the boss, don't see your subordinates as threat, be humble enough to teach them, they are not going to take your job, everybody has his/her time, teach them, encourage them, build them, be a leader not a boss. You know a boss will be pushy but a leader will lead by example, he'll say "do what I do and not what I say". Thank you very much.

Finally Ma, what is your guiding principle in life, what is that motto that is always resounding in your mind?

My motto is God alone, whatever you do put God first and don't be too wise in your own eyes. Don't be too big to learn from anybody, "I can learn from this little girl", so respect the young, the old and it shall be well with you.

Thank you so very much.

POETRY

with 'Sola Adesanwo

THE GOLDEN SUN

Like a mighty
rock

You hang in
delicate
Balance up above
my head
Your golden yellow
brightness is
Eating up my
eyeballs
Hot beads of sweat
snake down my
cheeks

Your circumference
touches all corners
of earth, yet I
remain under your
crushing presence

I sway left and right
to hide, yet I stand
naked
Under your
imposing height
Even birds flying
across
Fan with wings
Oh golden yellow
sun hide me
When you go to
sleep tonight.

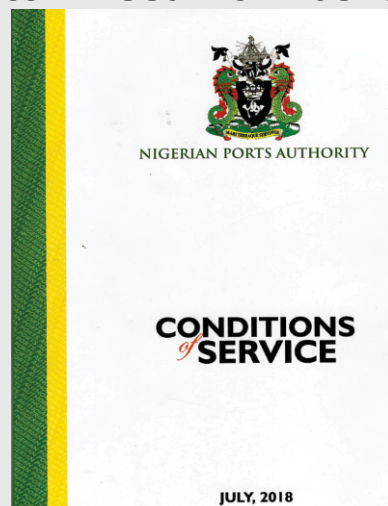


SERIALIZATION FOR INSIGHT

This section of the Newsletter would henceforth be dedicated to the serialization of official documents and books that would impact on the mission and vision of the NPA.

LEAVE

...continued from last edition



Incidental leave granted for trade union business will usually be for the purpose of trade union conferences, seminars and such tours of ports in pursuit of industrial peace.

Others

Any incidental leave not covered by (a) or (b) above and exceeding the normal duration of an employee's annual leave shall be referred to the Managing Director for approval. The period involved shall be treated as leave without pay.

04.08 Study Leave

This is the leave granted to a confirmed employee to undertake an approved course of study within or outside the country.

General Rules

Only employees who have served for at least 5 years shall be granted study leave.

Evidence of letter of admission must be provided.

Evidence of duration of the course of study must be provided.

The course of study must be relevant to the employee's job function and is necessary to enhance the performance of the employee and add to the Authority.

The course of study must be relevant to the employee's profession.

Deferment of approved study leave shall be approved by the Managing Director. However, an approved study leave shall not be deferred more than two times.

The period of study leave shall not be regarded as a break in service.

The employee granted study leave shall be re-absorbed on completion of the course and will be entitled to promotion subject to vacancy

under section 03.01. This rule is applicable only to study leave with pay, and study leave without pay where the course of study is completed within a maximum two years period.

That the course is relevant to the employee's profession.

Study leave with full Sponsorship:

Study leave with full sponsorship is granted when all training expenses is paid by the Authority along with normal emoluments and allowances to the benefiting Employee. The proposed course of study must be relevant to the Authority, knowledge/skill needs of the employee and included in the approved training policy/programmes of the Authority. The duration shall not exceed two years.

Study leave without pay

An employee may be granted Study Leave without pay where the proposed course of study is not included in the approved training programmes of the Authority.

Conditions for approval of study leave without pay are as follows:

An employee on study leave without pay is not entitled to emoluments and allowances.

The duration of study leave without pay shall be a minimum of two (2) years and a maximum of five (5) years including extension if need arises and or National Service period.

Reabsorption of the employee on completion of course shall be automatic only where the duration of course does not exceed two years.

Reabsorption of the employee on completion of the course shall not be automatic where the duration of the course exceeds two years, such reabsorption shall be subject to availability of vacancy in the relevant area of the employee's Department.

Application for reabsorption (for study leave that exceeds two years) shall be made upon completion of the course of study. Where the reabsorption is not approved, the employee may apply for either withdrawal of service (where the employee's length of service is greater than five years but less than ten years), or voluntary retirement (where the employee's length of service is above ten years).

Reabsorption shall be on former grade and former department.

The duration of study leave without pay shall not be more than two years each for ND and HND programmes in the first instance, after which the employee can apply for lone year-extension (inclusive of the period required for the National Youth Service Scheme) if the need arises.

In the case of specialized courses (e.g. medicine, pharmacy, architecture etc.), the period of study leave shall not be more than five (5) years in the first instance, after which the employee can apply for one year extension (inclusive of the period required for the National Youth Service Scheme and clinical practice).

To be continued next edition

Health and Safety

10 WAYS TO KEEP HOME ENVIRONMENT SAFE AND CLEAN



A safe and clean environment ensure a healthy living. One can play the right role to control maximum pollution by following few easy steps that starts from home.

1. REDUCE THE USAGE OF YOUR ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

This serves as the best means to conserve energy. One of the best ways to conserve electricity is by switching off all the lights and appliances when not in use. Use of solar power for heating water instead of an electrical appliance.

2. DRIVE YOUR CAR LESS

Driving one's car less and acquire other means of transportation instead can make environment clean. Leaking of car air condition adversely destroys the upper layer of ozone atmosphere. One must be careful while filling one's car with gas and see that it doesn't spills off the tank. Use motor oil that is energy-efficient.

3. REDUCE THE USAGE OF WOODEN STOVE

Wooden stove tends to generate excessive smoke into the air which is harmful for the health of entire family. Cooking food on energy efficient appliances promises low cost and quick cooking too with reduction in smoke.

4. MAINTAIN A HEALTHY ECO SYSTEM

There is a need of an eco-system to have good interaction with green plants, organisms and animals in a healthy environment. With a little change in one's daily lifestyle, one can definitely help to protect the entire planet with its ecosystem in a healthier way.

5. REDUCE USAGE OF CHEMICALS AND PESTICIDES

It is always advisable to eliminate maximum household chemicals and pesticides that directly pollute the green environment. Using distilled vinegar, lemon and baking soda for cleaning purpose improves an environment.

6. RECYCLE THE WASTE PRODUCTS

Many waste products like glass, plastics, aluminium and paper can be recycled instead of been disposed off in the dustbin. This will prevent any air pollution accumulated on burning these products. The use of reusable towels and reusable bags rather than using disposable plastics or bags can also improve the environment.

7. REDUCE CARBON FOOTPRINTS

There are many ways to cut back carbon footprints causing excess air pollution like lowering of the temperature of water heater, wash dishes manually instead of using a dishwasher,

reduce the use of air conditioner or heater and buy energy efficient lights lowers energy consumption and heat generation level.

8. GROW FOOD LOCALLY

Planting of the food locally helps in reducing the overall commercial transportation of food items that require pesticides and preservatives to preserve them. These preservatives directly pollute the air. It is also a proven fact that organic food is more sustainable than the one which is preserved using harmful pesticides and chemicals, thereby causing harm to the entire global ecosystem.

9. REDUCE CONTAMINANTS

It is always a better option to reduce the usage of contaminants and toxic materials at home. A healthy environment begins from home. There is need to take care of disposing off all the waste material in a proper way rather than simply disposing them off in the bins.

10. AVOID THE POLLUTION

Try not to throw away trash or waste materials almost anywhere in and around your house. One must dispose off biodegradable as well as non-biodegradable wastes in a proper way and avoid littering it all over our home environment. Any excess air or water pollution can negatively affect you and your family's health while destroying the entire environment globally.

Source: www.greendiary.com

REMEMBER THAT:

- Ø A Clean Environment is a Safe Environment
- Ø Feed the Planet and it Will Nourish You
- Ø Do Not Spoil Air. Just Repair for Environmental Care

By Engr. Dafe T. S. Prin. Manager, Safety



WORK HOUR RELAXATION

VOX-POP

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WORKERS UNION NOW COMPARED TO THE PAST?

The current union workers are performing excellently on the issues of industrial action no social unrest among the two (2) house unions, the labour relations among the staff and the stakeholders are relatively peaceful when compared with the past union workers.



Obhakhan Christopher A.
Corp. & Strategic Planning, Rivers Port.

Worker's union performance now is seen to be less successful than their counterpart in time past, this is because election into executive positions are no longer democratic. Executives also seek various financial support from management and workers total support for executives in time of trouble is also on the decline. However there's room for improvement.

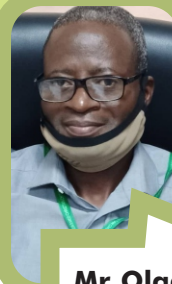


Mr. Godwin Eyekomogban
Delta Ports, Warri



The present Workers Union under-performed compared to the past. The wages aspect, protection of workers right and Workers welfare was what the past Union took as their priority, but not with this present Union.

Umo, Victoria Asuquo
Human Resources, Calabar Port



Mr. Oladunjoye Rufus Olaniyi
Statistics

The past workers union was resolute to fight for the benefits of the staff/officers but the crop of the present union is seen to be selfish and fighting for no staff and officers



Innocent Ogbuehi, HR Dept.
Onne Port Complex.

For those in the industrial sector, organized labor unions fought for better wages reasonable hours and safer working conditions. The labor movement led efforts to stop child labor, give health benefits and provide aid to workers who were injured or retired

Aderinto Olusegun,
Harbours Division, Delta Ports, Warri.



The union isn't getting any better from my own view, a lot of issues like salaries and allowances, promotions, stagnation for many years in a particular position are not being addressed, welfare of staffs, selected courses for few people. All these issues should be carefully addressed.

FEEDBACK

I particularly got a kick from the Vox Pop in your, Vol. 4 No. 46 May 2021 Edition.

And also, the annual leave is quite apt and an eyeopener. I was affected by the bit about not having leave spill over to the next year and it was tough. People need to know more about that. Well done. Keep the flag flying.

Josephine Moltok
AGM, Overseas Liaison Office, London

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