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NPA SECURES \$700M LOAN TO REHABILITATE PORTS

A2-03E

EXIT

Bello Koko led management team of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has secured a \$700 million loan from Citibank to rehabilitate the Apapa and Tin-Can Island ports in Lagos which will be funded by the UK Export Finance (UKEF), an export credit agency. In addition, there is further discussions with another funding agency to secure financing for upgrading the Eastern Ports, including Calabar, Warri, Onne, and Rivers Ports, as well as the reconstruction of the Escravos breakwater.

In a recent chat with our online crew, Mr Koko the Chief Operating Officer of the nation's seaports is quoted as saying "The loan mandate letter will be sent to the Debt Management Office for final review and approval. The funds are ready, and the reconstruction of the Lagos Ports will start soon. The NPA is also planning to sign another mandate letter for the upgrading of the Eastern Ports in about a month. The Citibank facility is the cheapest for the Ports Authority because it comes with affordable interest rates."

"The NPA has realized the need to rehabilitate and reconstruct the ports all over the country. The Authority has been having discussions with multilateral funding agencies that have sent various proposals that have been reviewed. The NPA has decided to separate the ports in Lagos from the ports in the East and is in discussion with other funding agencies to fund the construction of ports outside Lagos."

Stakeholders have applauded this development by the NPA stating it would further enhance service delivery and operational efficiency towards meeting International best practices.

"National Brand Asset Anchored on Service Excellence"



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EDITOR

n this month's edition of the online bulletin, we are pleased to share some exciting news with the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA). Firstly management has recently secured a \$700 million loan from Citibank towards rehabilitating and reconstructing the Apapa and Tincan Island Ports. Additionally, plans to further finance the

upgrading of the Eastern seaports are underway towards improving operational efficiency and capacity.

Also, the Amed Sagir led Senior Staff Association of Statutory Corporations of Government Owned Companies (SSASCGOC) recently held its median inaugural launch on the "Akinyola Bodunde Excellence Award" to recognise and reward outstanding employees who have contributed to the growth and development of the organisation.

Our regular features like Vox Pop, Health & Safety, Maritime Terminologies, and work ethics, are also included for your reading as always.



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ship's voyage may end at a port, but its journey continues in the hearts of those it touched." - Unknown

All correspondence 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, marriages, burials, etc



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

Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority



SSASCGOC HONOURS OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES AT INAUGURAL EXCELLENCE AWARD CEREMONY

- Akinsanya Lucy



he Senior Staff Association of Statutory Corporations of Government Owned Companies (SSASCGOC) recently held its inaugural "Akinyola Bodunde Excellence Award" ceremony to recognise and reward outstanding employees who have significantly contributed to the growth and development of the organisation.

The event took place at the conference room of the Headquarters and was monitored by online news reporters. In his remark, Amed Sagir Chairman of the Association, informed dignitaries that the award would be held annually.

According to him, the award is meant to serve as a morale booster and to appreciate employees who have distinguished themselves in the workplace.

A highlight of the event was the presentation of awards to two employees each from the four Directorate namely, Benedict Ogaram, Andrew Okocha (Finance and Administration), Pondie Duke Onyinperebi, Oladapo Beatrice Olusola (Marine and Operations), Engr. Oluwafemi Ajibero Peter, Safiya Suleiman (Engineering & Technical Services), Agboola Shadrack Abidemi, Ockiya Nathaniel Tamunoibi (Managing Director's Outfit). Other maritime workers were honoured for their dedication to work. Comrade Andrew Okocha, expressed gratitude and encouraged others to continue performing well.

The event was part of the 2024 Workers' Day Celebration and was attended by management staff, employees of NPA, and stakeholders.





ORGANISING YOUR WORKPLACE

o effectively manage your time and to be productive each day, you must create an appropriate environment. By eliminating clutter, setting up an effective filing system, gathering essential tools, and managing workflow, you will be well on your way to creating an effective workspace.

De-Clutter

Removing clutter is time-consuming, but a cluttered workspace significantly impairs your ability to find things, and you will get the time back that you invest – and more! To retrieve materials quickly, you'll need an effective filing system that includes three basic kinds of files:

- Working files: Materials used frequently and needed close at hand.
- **Reference files:** Information is needed only occasionally.
- Archival files: Materials seldom retrieved but that must be kept. For ease of retrieval, organise files in the simplest way possible. For example, you could label files with a one or two word tag and arrange the files alphabetically.

Once the clutter has been eliminated and other materials have been filed, the effective workspace includes only what is essential: a set of three trays to control the workflow on your desk (see the next topic), standard office supplies, a computer, and a telephone. Everything else, except for what you are working on at the moment, can and should be filed where it can be retrieved as needed.

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

Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority





Compiled by Albert Orem

CONT. FROM LAST EDITION

dockage: A charge by a port authority for the length of water frontage used by a vessel tied up at a wharf.

draft: The depth of a loaded vessel in the water taken from the level of the waterline to the lowest point of the hull of the vessel; depth of water, or distance between the bottom of the ship and waterline.

drayage: Transport by truck for short distances; e.g. from wharf to warehouse..

dredge: (noun) A waterborne machine that removes unwanted silt accumulations from the bottom of a waterway. (verb) The process of removing sediment from harbor or river bottoms for safety purposes and to allow for deeper vessels.

dry bulk: Minerals or grains stored in loose piles moving without mark or count.

Examples are potash, industrial sands, wheat, soybeans and peanuts.

dunnage: Wood or other material used in stowing ship cargo to prevent its movement.

duty: A government tax on imported merchandise.

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI): The exchange of information through an electronic format. Electronic commerce has been under intensive development in the transportation industry to achieve a competitive advantage in international markets.

elevator: A complex including storage facilities, computerized loading; inspection rooms and docks to load and unload dry bulk cargo such as grain or green coffee.

export packers: Firms that securely pack export products into a container to crate to protect the cargo from damage during an ocean voyage.

CONT. NEXT EDITION

Benedicta Onwuemene

ACQUISITION

HWA

TO

REQUIREMENTS FOR UK VISA

HOTEL

- **UK visa application form**: According to the UK visa type you are applying for, you may have to complete the form online at the website of Visa4UK website, or the manual application form.
- **Two photographs**: These photos should have been taken within the past six months and in colour. You can get a photo that complies with the UK visa regulations at MyBiometricPhotos.com.
- Your Valid Passport: It must be valid for three more months beyond the date you plan to leave the UK after your trip. It must also have at least one blank page for the visa stamp. If your passport has expired, you might not be able to travel.
- **Proof of Financial Means:** Proof you have the financial means to cover the living costs while in the UK. This may be your bank statements for the last six months, or pay slips for the same period.
- **Proof of accommodation**: You will need to present a document that shows where you will be accommodated while in the UK. Note that you do not have to fully pay for a hotel/hostel in the UK before getting the visa, just to get such a document.
- **Detailed travel itinerary**. Submit a travel plan that gives all the information regarding how and what you are planning to do in the UK. Include the travel dates, places you will visit, meeting agenda, booked tour, festival agenda, etc. Click here to learn how to book dummy flight tickets for a UK visa.
- **Tuberculosis Test Results**. Nationals of several world countries will need to submit requests for a Tuberculosis Test to be eligible for a UK Visa. Check here if you need to provide the TB test results.
- **Biometric information**. If you are applying for a visa that lets you stay in UK for more than 6 months, you will need to submit your biometric information. This includes giving your fingerprints and a digital photograph taken at the appropriate application centre.
- **UK visa invitation letter**. (If applicable). If you will be staying over with a friend or a family member, then you should submit a letter of invitation. Your host must be a UK national or a legal resident.
- **UK cover letter. (If applicable)**. Personalized letter that accompanies the visa application, providing a detailed explanation of the purpose of the visit and the applicant's background. It serves as an essential supporting document to convey the applicant's genuine intentions and enhance their chances of obtaining the desired visa.
- **Paid UK visa fees**: You should submit the receipt that confirms you have paid the visa fee as required.
- Certified translations of any document that is not in either English or Welsh, must be accompanied by a certified translation.



HEALTH & SAFETY TIPS FOR MAINTAINING HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORKPLACE

o maintain and ensure optimum health and safety, the following tips are necessary as a guide in the workplace.

> Wear all the recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Wearing of recommended PPE while undertaking any task is necessary to prevent or reduce the probability of an accident occurring. The type of PPE to be recommended will



vary depending on the kind of job and the nature of the workplace. It is therefore expedient that before such a recommendation is made, adequate Job Hazard Analysis must be carried out by Safety experts.

- 2. The Equipment and Machinery must be properly utilized: Proper use of all equipment and machinery is critical in reducing accidents and ensuring the safety of lives and property. It is therefore important that employees avoid incorrect use of equipment and machinery to avoid the primary cause of accidents and injuries in the workplace.
- Report Any Hazard(s) or Unsafe Condition(s): Any unsafe condition(s) or hazard(s) should be timely reported to the safety department so that necessary action can be taken. This will ensure that the hazard (s) and unsafe condition(s) do not result in injuries or accidents.
- 4. **Regular Health Checks**: Regular check-ups, screenings, and early intervention can help identify and address health issues before they escalate. Good health and safety are tied to an increase in productivity and performance, hence all employees irrespective of their

status must take advantage of medical/health checks to stay healthy.

5. Observe Your Launch: All workers need to be encouraged to observe breaks for food and to relax or stretch. You can also consider taking sometime between work tasks to look away from your computer screen, as this can help avoid eye strain and improve overall well-being.

CONCLUSION

The importance of health and safety is key to leading a productive life. As defined by World Health Organization, health is not just the absence of illness but it encompasses physical, mental, and social well-being, thereby contributing to a holistic and vibrant existence.

Prioritizing health and safety is an investment in one's present and future, fostering a life of purpose, vitality, and resilience. All workers and employers are therefore encouraged to take adequate care of their health and safety as an utmost obligation.

By Engr. Dr. Garba O. M. FNSE. Ph.d, Safety Department



CHOUR RELAX

WHAT ARE YOUR HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS ABOUT THE WORK ENVIRONMENT? HOW DO YOU THINK THIS CAN BE ADDRESSED?



y major concern in this regard is the inadequate toilets for the women. The women have only two toilets, while on each floor the men have three toilets and three urinary. I think women need to be given more attention when it comes to sanitary considerations.

> Sarah Oghomienor (Mrs) Audit, HQ



he office chairs are causing lower back pain (ergonomics issues). Employees having lower back pain should be identified and provided with ergonomics desk chairs to improve their wellbeing. The ultimate goal is to ensure that employees can perform their tasks in an environment that minimises the potential for long term health issues. In the long run, the demand for physiotherapy will reduce as well as medical costs.

> Tope Fadahunsi C&SC, HQ



Abbah Adah C&SC, Warri, Delta Ports hese are my health concerns, poor safety culture among port users, inadequate health & safety signage within the port, and rusty water supply in conveniences and canteen.

All these and more can be addressed, if management should approve fines for safety and defaulters within the port, provision of adequate signage and installation of mini water treatment system to overcome rusty water.

Agbaye Chinedu Safety Department, Warri, Delta Ports



y concern on Health and Safety in the work environment is that climbing the staircase for more than two years now is a thing of concern because of the health and stress people go through every day.

Addressing these safety concerns will entail immediate repairs of the elevators to ensure smooth operations and mitigate potential accidents or inconveniences.

Mrs. Funmilayo F. Osoba Port Manager Outfit, LPC Apapa, Lagos



y concern is the road leading to Onne port is not viable and therefore causing accidents. Onne port workers that ply this route are stressed up, therefore, affecting their efficiency in their job. I plea with management for rehabilitation of the road for easy movement.

> Mispah Oba C&SC, Onne Port





Monthly Online Newsletter of the Nigerian Ports Authority



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





The **Nigerian Ports Authority** provides professional port operations that meet the present and future needs of our customers.

Our stakeholders are top priority, little wonder we guarantee customer satisfaction and innovation in managing our 6 ports across the nation with the aim of maximizing operational efficiencies and providing value for money to our stakeholders.

We are a National Brand Asset Anchored on Service Excellence

Nigerian Ports Authority

... To be the Maritime Logistics Hub for Sustainable Port Services in Africa...

Our Port Locations:

Lagos Port Complex, Apapa P.M.B. 1021 Apapa Lagos Email Address: Ipcinfo@nigerianports.gov.ng Tin Can Island Port P.M.B. 1201, Apapa, Lagos Email Address: tcipinfo@nigerianports.gov.ng Rivers Port, Port-Harcourt Basket House, P.M.B. 5043 Port-Harcourt -Rivers State Email Address: riversinfo@nigerianports.gov.ng Delta Ports, Warri P.M.B. 1054, Warri Delta State Email Address: deltainfo@nigerianports.gov.ng

Calabar Port Complex, Calabar New Calabar Port Complex P.M.B 1014 Calabar, Cross-River State Email Address: calabarinfo@nigerianports.gov.ng Onne Port Complex, Onne Onne Port Complex, PMB 6199 Onne Rivers State Email Address: onneinfo@nigerianports.gov.ng



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