



N P A
NEWS

*Happy
New Year
2026*

NEW YEAR, SAME VISION: TOGETHER, WE CAN ACHIEVE MORE!

As we kick off 2026, we do so not just as an organisation but as a global powerhouse in the maritime industry. The past year was a testament to what is possible when a collective vision meets tireless dedication. Today, the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) stands as a beacon of efficiency and reliability in the Gulf of Guinea, and that is a direct result of hard work.

Celebrating Our Global Impact

In 2025, our ports witnessed unprecedented milestones. From the seamless integration of the Port Community System (PCS) to the record-breaking turnaround times for vessels, the appointment of the Managing Director, NPA, Dr Abubakar Dantsoho as the President of the Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA) and the Vice Chairman (Africa) for the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH).

The Nation's rising profile in maritime circuit and our improved rankings in the Global Port Performance Index are not just statistics; they are reflections of the impacts of the officers on the quayside, the engineers in the technical bays, and the administrators in our offices who ensure that every gear in the NPA machine turns perfectly and most of all, the strategies of the Dantsoho led Management, anchored on International best practices.

The Power of Synergy

Together, We Can Achieve More is more than a slogan; it is our strategic blueprint. The complexities of modern trade necessitate breaking down silos. When the harbour masters, security personnel, and ICT specialists work in harmony, we create a "Smart Port" environment that attracts global investment and drives national prosperity.

"Individual commitment to a group effort that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilisation work." — Vince Lombardi

The Road Ahead in 2026

While we celebrate our successes, the New Year brings new challenges. Global trade is evolving, with a sharper focus on green shipping and digital transparency. To stay ahead, we must renew our commitment to:

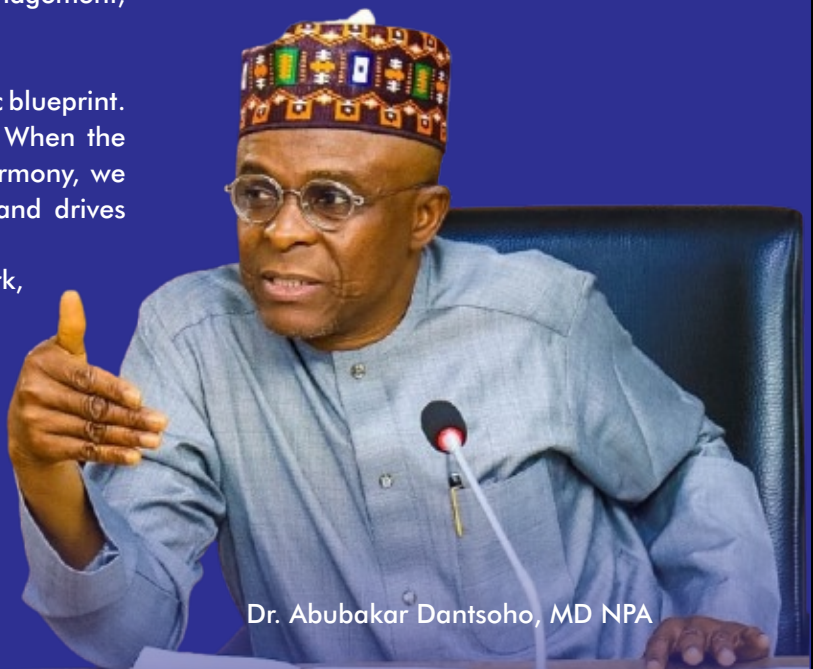
- * Operational Excellence: Reducing bottlenecks through disciplined execution.
- * Innovation: Embracing new technologies to automate and secure our gateways.

* Sustainability: Ensuring our operations protect the marine environment for future generations.

A Call to Action

Management is committed to providing the tools, training, and environment needed to excel. In return, we are required to maintain continued integrity and passion. Every container moved and every vessel cleared is a heartbeat of the Nigerian economy.

We enter 2026 with the shared understanding that our greatest strength is each other. By standing together, we will not only meet international standards, but we will set them. Happy New Year to the entire NPA family!



Dr. Abubakar Dantsoho, MD NPA

“National Brand Asset Anchored on Service Excellence”



THE EDITOR'S DESK

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EDITOR



As we reflect on the milestones of 2025, it is clear that the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has entered a transformative era. This edition emphasises that the past year wasn't merely defined by the volume of cargo crossing our quays, but by the strategic precision and international recognition that now define our

operations.

Additionally, the cornerstone of this evolution is our digital transition. While our physical infrastructure remains vital, our most powerful tools are now the digital systems in our hands. We have seen the tangible success of the "Ètò" Electronic Call-Up system, and we are now standing on the threshold of our most significant technological leap yet.

In this edition, we feature insights from our Vox-Pop series, where randomly selected staff shared perspectives on key areas and challenges Management should focus on to enhance workplace productivity and operational efficiency.

Our regular features cover essential topics such as health and safety, work ethics, and United States immigration updates. We trust that you find this edition informative, engaging, and inspiring.



Kingsley Ukabiala
Editor

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Quotable Quote

"A ship in port is safe. But that's what not ships are built for."

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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

OUR VISION: TO BE THE MARITIME LOGISTICS HUB FOR SUSTAINABLE PORT SERVICES IN AFRICA



From the ARCHIVES



The Ancient Kano City Walls were built as a defensive wall with the construction of the foundation laid by Sarki Gijimasu (r. 1095–1134), the third king of the Kingdom of Kano in the Kano Chronicle. In the mid-14th century during the reign of Zamnagawa, the wall was completed before it was further expanded during the 16th century. According to historians, the then General-Governor of the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria, Fredrick Lugard, wrote in a 1903 report about the Kano Walls that he had "never seen anything like it in Africa" after capturing the ancient city of Kano along with British forces.

SOURCE: Ancient Kano City Walls - Wikipedia

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

THE DIGITAL ANCHOR

NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY



THE DIGITAL ANCHOR: WHY EMBRACING TECHNOLOGY IS OUR PATH TO PROGRESS

As we steer the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) towards becoming a premier global maritime hub, one truth remains clear: our most powerful tool isn't just the machinery on our quays, but the digital systems in our hands. With the upcoming 2026 launch of the Port Community System (PCS) and the continued success of the "Étò" Electronic Call-Up system in our ports, we are no longer just moving cargoes; we are managing data.

To remain competitive and efficient, our entire workforce must not only use these technologies but fully embrace them as the core of our daily operations.

Why Digital Literacy Matters for Every Officer

Technology is not here to replace the human element; it is here to empower it. By adopting a "digital-first" mindset, we unlock several professional advantages:

- **Precision and Speed:** Automated systems like the National Single Window (NSW) eliminate the fatigue of manual paperwork, allowing us to process clearances in days rather than weeks.
- **Enhanced Safety:** Digital monitoring on heavy equipment provides real-time alerts, significantly reducing the risk of workplace accidents and ensuring everyone goes home safe.
- **Transparency and Integrity:** Digital footprints protect our hard-earned reputation. Automated revenue collection and e-tags block leakages, ensuring that our contributions to the national economy are accurately recorded.
- **Data-Driven Decisions:** When we input accurate data into our systems, we gain the "big picture." This enables us to anticipate bottlenecks before they occur, making our shifts smoother and less stressful.

There is no gain in emphasising that Management is committed to providing continuous training and awareness programs to ensure that no one is left behind in this transition. However, the true success of our modernisation depends on your willingness to learn, adapt, and innovate. A digitally-literate workforce is a high-performing workforce. By embracing these tools, we aren't only improving port productivity but also future-proofing our careers and solidifying Nigeria's position as a leader in African maritime trade.

work ethics

BY RUFUS AYEBANUA (NYSC MEMBER)

FASHION BEYOND THE TREND

Fashion is not about following trends; it is about expressing your personal style, identity, and creativity.

Fashion serves as a means of self-expression and self-definition. Every outfit we choose, every accessory we love and every place we pass over speaks who we are, how we see ourselves and how we want the world to see us.

Developing your personal style involves experimenting with different looks, shapes, and colours. It is about discovering what makes you feel good and what resonates with your individual taste. It is also about understanding your body type and choosing clothes that flatter your figure.

It is about building a timeless collection of pieces that you genuinely love and feel confident wearing, season after season. This approach encourages a more sustainable and mindful way of consuming fashion.

Investing in quality over quantity, choosing versatile items and opting for classic shape, it is about understanding what works for your body type, embracing your unique features and developing a style that evolves with you.

Fashion beyond trends is about creating a wardrobe that tells your story and also dressing with purpose rather than pressure. It's about investing in pieces that feel like you, rather than chasing what is hot right now.

In the end, the most fashionable people are not the ones wearing the latest trends; they are the ones wearing the right thing for them, clothes that tell a story, reflect values and express themselves individually.



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

MARITIME TERMS

Compiled by Albert Orem

CONT. FROM LAST EDITION

Customs: A duty or tax on imported goods. These fees are a major bonus to the economy. In 1999, for example, the U. S. Customs Department collected over **\$22 billion** in fees nationally, which went into the U.S. Treasury. The Customs Department also works to prevent the importation of illegal drugs and contraband.

Customs broker: This person prepares the needed documentation for importing goods (just as a freight forwarder does for exports). The broker is licensed by the Treasury Department to clear goods through U.S. Customs. Performs duties related to documentation, cargo clearance, coordination of inland and ocean transportation, dockside inspection of cargo, etc. (Also known as a customhouse broker.)

Dead Weight Tonnage (DWT): Maximum weight of a vessel including the vessel, cargo and ballast.

Deadhead: When a truck returning from a delivery has no return freight on the back haul, it is said to be in deadhead.

Deck barge: Transports heavy or oversize cargoes mounted to its top deck instead of inside a hold. Machinery, appliances, project cargoes and even recreational vehicles move on deck barges.

Demurrage: A penalty fee assessed when cargo isn't moved off a wharf before the free time allowance ends.

dock: (verb) - To bring in a vessel to tie up at a wharf berth. (One parks a car, but docks a ship.) (noun) - A dock is a structure built along, or at an angle from, a navigable waterway so that vessels may lie alongside to receive or discharge cargo. Sometimes, the whole wharf is informally called a dock.

CONT. NEXT EDITION



- Femi Soneye

U.S.

IMMIGRATION UPDATE WHAT NIGERIANS MUST KNOW

The United States has not permanently banned Nigerians from obtaining green cards, but it has placed Nigeria under strict immigration restrictions.

Green card and citizenship applications by Nigerians are now largely paused or delayed, with cases facing intense security reviews and no clear timeline for approval.

Visa renewals are no longer routine. Student, work, and exchange visa

renewals now face tougher scrutiny and a higher risk of refusal.

The Green Card Lottery route is currently closed. Nigerians can no longer rely on it for U.S. immigration.

Existing visa and green card holders are not automatically affected, but travel, renewals, and status violations carry a higher risk.

This is not a punishment of individuals, but a US policy tied to security and documentation concerns.

HEALTH & SAFETY

PRIORITISING PHYSICAL FITNESS

A CATALYST FOR SUCCESS



We often hear that "Health is Wealth," and in a demanding industry like ours, this could not be truer. In the rush of daily port operations, it's easy to let physical well-being slide. However, staying active is not just a personal win—it's a professional one.

By introducing a monthly physical fitness routine, we can unlock several key benefits:

- * **Sharper Focus:** Regular activity boosts blood flow to the brain, helping us stay alert and energised during long shifts.
- * **Better Mental Health:** Exercise is a proven stress-reliever. A more active team is a more resilient and positive one.
- * **Stronger Attendance:** Better fitness means fewer sick days and a more reliable, consistent workflow across our operations.
- * **Team Synergy:** Moving together builds camaraderie. These sessions are a great way to connect with colleagues outside of the usual office or port setting.

* **Long-term Wellness:**

Investing in our health now means a more vibrant workforce and lower healthcare burdens in the future.

Ultimately, physical fitness is an essential investment in our greatest resource: our people. By committing to regular movement and providing structured opportunities for monthly physical activity, we can cultivate a more resilient, engaged, and high-performing workforce. We invite everyone to join us in prioritising health as we build a more vibrant and productive organisational culture together.



By Health, Safety & Environment (HSE) Division, NPA

VOX-POP



Management should look into the breakwater that has collapsed at Escravos, which is constituting a hindrance to the free movement of vessels due to frequent siltation of channels leading to the port. Dredging for smooth navigation is required. Also, an inadequate operational vehicle is limiting the monitoring of numerous jetties in the Delta ports.

- **Olowofela Adenike C.,
Traffic & Billing, Delta Ports**

Management may wish to prioritise the digitalisation of barge scheduling and environmental compliance monitoring. Streamlining these operations will reduce vessel turnaround time, minimise port congestion and ensure sustainable growth in line with international maritime regulations.

- **Kyari Mohammed Aliyu,
Operations, Onne Port
Complex**



The management should reduce manual handling and paper workflows, which are the major sources of delays and errors, this will minimise turnaround times, enhance data accuracy and lower administrative bottlenecks.

**Onalaja Omolola Adenike (Mrs), Corporate
& Strategic Planning, Lagos Port Complex**

To drive measurable improvements in workplace productivity and operational efficiency, management should prioritise key performance challenges, particularly staff development through targeted capacity building and skills enhancement. In doing so, fostering strategic partnerships with maritime training institutions will upskill employees, directly boosting individual performance and unlocking significant gains in operational efficiency.

**Barr Vivian Amaechi F.,
Legal, Rivers Port Complex**



To enhance productivity, the NPA should focus on providing tailored staff training programs to enhance skills and performance, ensure proper supervision and oversight to optimise operations, implement timely maintenance of equipment to minimise downtime and delays, and foster improved communication across departments to facilitate smoother port operations.

**Suleiman Jerry,
Audit, HQ**

Management should consider the recruitment of relevant workers, most especially low cadre staff, provision of working tools and creation of an enabling environment for the workforce. In still discipline, strictly in line with the condition of service and introducing a reward system for workers as a way of boosting morale.

- **Aluko Kayode S.,
Engineering, HQ**



FEEDBACK FROM A RANDOMLY SELECTED STAFF ON AREAS OR CHALLENGES MANAGEMENT SHOULD PRIORITISE TO DRIVE MEASURABLE IMPROVEMENTS IN WORKPLACE PRODUCTIVITY AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY.

Work Hour Relaxation



Engr. Ibrahim Abba Umar
Executive Director
Engr & Tech Services
1st January



Dapo Adekunle
Procurement Div., HQ
12th January



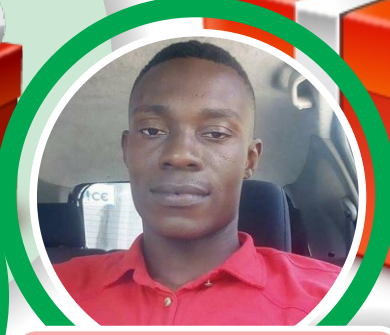
Ballah Yerima
Per. Mng. Dept, HQ
1st January



Zeliha Murtala Muhammed
CA Div, HQ
17th January



Deborah Akhabue
Medical Dept, HQ
9th January



Immanuel Ubi
Harbours Dept, Calabar Port
14th January



Solomon Adegoye
Procurement Dept, HQ
30th January



Agazi Bernard
Security LPC
12th January



Engr. Josephine Sunday
ICT Div. HQ
18th January



Koleoso Felicia
Planning Dept, HQ
29th January



Roseline Ahamba
Delta Ports, Warri
13th January



Jeje Oludare Saheed
HR Opts, LPC
25th January



Abubakar Hassan
CA HQ
1st January



Ahmed Abubakar Sadiq
CA HQ
31st January



Aliyu Ahmad
Procurement Dept, HQ
25th January



NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY

To be the *Maritime Logistic Hub*
for *sustainable Port Services*
in *Africa*



Our Port Locations:

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lpcinfo@nigerianports.gov.ng

Tin Can Island Port
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Calabar Port Complex, Calabar
Cross-River State
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Onne Port Complex, Onne
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onneinfo@nigerianports.gov.ng

Lekki Deep Sea Port
Lagos State
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