

CNG Sector Attracts \$980m Investments In 18 Months - PCNGi Boss

Nigeria's Compressed Natural Gas sector has attracted more than \$980 million in private investments in just 18 months, with vehicle conversions surging from 4,000 to nearly 100,000, according to Michael Oluwabemi, the Chief Executive Officer of the Speaking Presidential Wednesday at the

CONTINUES ON P3

NPA Links 19.6% Export Growth To Ports, Processing Terminals' Efficiency

The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has attributed the country's 19.6 per cent non-oil export growth in the first half

(Q1) to the efficiency of the export processing terminals (EPT) and port operations. The Managing Director of NPA, Dr Abubakar

Dantsoho, commended the excellent work being undertaken by the Nigerian Export Promotion Council

CONTINUES ON P7



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Thurs, August 14th 2025

E - NEWSPAPER

FEC Approves N142bn For Construction Of Bus Terminals In Six Zones

The Federal Government on Wednesday approved N142bn for the construction of modern bus

terminals across the country.

The government also ordered all Ministries,

Departments, and Agencies still processing contracts under the 2024

Appropriation to complete their procurement activities by the end of

September 2025.

The approval for the N142bn and the

CONTINUES ON P3

Enhancing Blue Economy With Improved Security Infras'cture Tinubu's Policies Driving Maritime Growth, Says NSC Boss

P2



Minister of Transportation, Saidu Alkali

FEC Approves N493bn For Kano-Katsina Road Upgrade, Carter Bridge Construction

THE Federal Executive Council, FEC, announced the approval of N493 billion for two critical infrastructure projects: the upgrading of

the Kano-Katsina Road and the construction of a new Carter Bridge in Lagos State.

The Minister of Works,

Senator David Umahi, disclosed this while briefing State House correspondents, after the FEC

meeting, presided over by President Bola Tinubu at the Presidential Villa, Abuja.

The Minister highlighted significant cost adjustments

CONTINUES ON P2

Imo Residents Seek Urgent Action On Flooded Road P5

Local Transport News

FRSC Trains 250 Commercial Drivers In Life-Saving Rescue

Culled

No fewer than 250 commercial drivers have undergone training in emergency rescue operations for road accident victims at Jabi Central Motor Park in Abuja.

The capacity-building initiative, organised by the Hospital Emergency Response Foundation (HERF) in collaboration with the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), aimed to equip drivers and passengers with life-saving first aid techniques during emergencies.

Udanga Agam-Jarigbe, Executive Director of HERF, reaffirmed the foundation's commitment to partnering with transport unions, traffic management agencies, and other stakeholders to reduce road accident fatalities.

"This training will be extended nationwide to minimise the devastating impact of road crashes on Nigerians," she said.

All trainees received first aid kits and medical supplies for emergency use.

Isah Nzapisma, Head of Operations for FRSC in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), stated that the Corps is collaborating with key organisations to meet the United Nations Decade of Action target, halving road accidents by 2030.

He urged participants to apply the skills learned and avoid reckless driving and alcohol consumption.

Find Full Story In The Link



The trainees

Tinubu's Policies Driving Maritime Growth, Says NSC Boss

Culled

President Bola Tinubu's economic reforms are unlocking growth across key sectors, with the maritime industry emerging as one of the biggest winners, according to Executive Secretary of the Nigerian Shippers Council, Mr. Pius Akutah.

Speaking in Abuja during an interaction with members of the Conference of Benue Journalists (CBJ), Akutah described the creation of the Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy as a major turning point for the nation's economy.

"That move alone signalled serious intent to unlock Nigeria's ocean economy," he said.

He noted that the maritime sector, once underutilised, is now experiencing a transformation driven by policy alignment for sustainability, investment, and global competitiveness. The port economy, he added, is undergoing a "quiet revolution" with infrastructure upgrades, rising cargo exports, and record levels of foreign direct investment.

"Before now, vessels came in and left

empty. Today, Nigerian exporters are filling those containers, and the entire port logistics chain is becoming more efficient and productive," Akutah said.

He also highlighted government initiatives to establish inland dry ports and logistics hubs to connect the hinterlands, aiming to position Nigeria as West Africa's maritime gateway, including for landlocked nations. Akutah credited the progress to Tinubu's bold economic measures – from fuel subsidy removal to fiscal reforms – which, he said, have shifted the economy from "crawling" to "walking, even running" in critical sectors.

Beyond the economy, he praised the administration's role in sports, citing the achievements of the Super Falcons and D'Tigress as signs of a "nation regaining its footing."

On the president's impact in Benue, Akutah expressed appreciation for the appointment of Benue indigenes to strategic federal positions, including the Secretary to the Government of the Federation.

Find Full Story In The Link

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The Minister of Works, Senator David Umahi, disclosed this while briefing State House correspondents, after the FEC meeting, presided over by President Bola Tinubu at the Presidential Villa, Abuja.

The Minister highlighted significant cost adjustments for the 152-kilometre Kano-Katsina Road due to current economic factors. The road, previously divided into two sections under the former administration, has seen substantial budget revisions.

"Section One, spanning 74.1 kilometres, was originally awarded in 2013 at N14 billion, revised to N24 billion, and now updated to N68 billion. Section Two, covering 79.5 kilometres, was awarded in 2019 for N29 billion, increased to N46 billion, and has now



Bodo road

been further revised to N66.115 billion," Umahi explained.

The combined cost for both sections totals approximately N134 billion, with allocations of N6 billion and N34 billion scheduled for Section One in the 2024 and 2025 budgets, respectively. Section Two is set to receive N80 billion over the same period.

Regarding the Carter Bridge, Umahi

outlined findings from underwater inspections in 2013 and 2019 that revealed severe damage to the bridge's substructure caused by illegal sand mining, erosion, and corrosion of piles and piers. Julius Berger, the contractor responsible for repairs, advised that the bridge is beyond repair and recommended full replacement.

The estimated cost to construct a new

Carter Bridge stands at about N359 billion. Discussions with Deutsche Bank are underway to explore funding options.

Umahi also highlighted similar underwater structural issues identified in the 3rd Mainland Bridge, with rehabilitation estimated at N3.8 trillion and a new construction projected at N3.6 trillion.

Find Full Story In The Link

Local Transport News

Imo Residents Seek Urgent Action On Flooded Road

Culled

Residents of Umuguma in Owerri West Local Government Area of Imo State have called on Governor Hope Uzodimma to urgently intervene in the deplorable condition of their access road and save them from being cut off from other communities.

They made the call at the weekend after several people and vehicles were trapped on the road on Saturday, following heavy flooding in the area.

Speaking with South East PUNCH in Owerri, Imo State on Saturday, one of the road users, Mr Austin Opara, described his experience on the road as hellish, lamenting that the road has rendered his X-Terra jeep unmotorable following constant breakdowns in the flooded road.

"I moved in here about two years ago and it has been nothing short of hellish experience. My X-Terra jeep broke down on the road after a heavy downpour last year and till now, the mechanics have not been able to fix it. I

and my four family members are forced to jump into buses, motorbikes, or trek in some cases.

"Ideally bus fare is N300 within Umuguma but since the rains started about two months ago, we pay ₦700 because there are reduced buses and motorbikes. Nobody wants to ply the route while private car owners have all parked theirs to avoid stories that touch the heart", Opara lamented.

A petty trader, Mrs NkemOkezie said several women were at the verge of

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A flooded area

FEC Approves N142bn For Const'ction Of Bus Terminals In Six Zones

Culled

The Federal Government on Wednesday approved N142bn for the construction of modern bus terminals across the country.

The government also ordered all Ministries, Departments, and Agencies still processing contracts under the 2024 Appropriation to complete their procurement activities by the end of September 2025.

The approval for the N142bn and the deadline for the conclusion of the 2024 project procurement were made during the Federal Executive Council meeting presided over by President Bola Tinubu held at the Presidential Villa, Abuja.

Speaking with State House Correspondents after the meeting, the Minister of Transportation, Sai'du Alkali, confirmed that the bus terminals will be constructed in the six geopolitical zones across the country.

Alkali noted that the terminals will be sited in Abeokuta (South-West), Gombe (North-East), Kano (North-West),

Lokoja (North-Central), Onitsha (South-East), and Ewu in Edo State (South-South).

He said the sum of "₦142,028,576,008.17" was approved for the construction of the terminals.

The minister identified that the lack of major bus terminals contributes to crime, road accidents, and illegal arms proliferation, which prompted them to seek presidential and Federal Executive Council approval for the project.

"This is the first time the government is having intervention in or road infrastructure apart from road construction. The idea of these terminals was chosen based on the choice of their economic viability.

"It has come to the notice of the ministry that in spite of the significance of road transportation in Nigeria, there are no bus terminals to address the interests of millions of Nigerian commuters. As a result, we have a lot of crime, road traffic accidents, and proliferation of arms and ammunition on our highways.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

CNG Sector Attracts \$980m Investments In 18 Months - PCNGi Boss

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Nigeria's Compressed Natural Gas sector has attracted more than \$980 million in private investments in just 18 months, with vehicle conversions surging from 4,000 to nearly 100,000, according to the Chief Executive Officer of the Presidential Compressed Natural Gas Initiative, Michael Oluwagbemi.

Speaking on Wednesday at the launch of the Portland Gas Ltd/NASENI CNG Daughter Station, Auto Conversion and Training Centre along the Kubwa Expressway in Abuja, Oluwagbemi described the CNG programme as the country's "fastest-growing energy sector", fueled by government incentives and private sector participation.

"I am pleased to report that just 18 months later, we have tracked over \$980 million worth of investments in the CNG sector. This is easily the fastest-growing sector in the country today, and it continues to grow in leaps and bounds," he said.

The CNG initiative, championed by President Bola Tinubu as part of



Engr Oluwagbemi

measures to cushion the impact of fuel subsidy removal, is aimed at making transportation more affordable and eco-friendly. Oluwagbemi said the transition to CNG offered motorists up to 90 per cent savings on fuel costs.

"Many of us move around in big jeeps, but that's just about 10 to 20 per cent of the population. The majority, low-income earners, women, schoolchildren, and the aged, rely on public transportation,

and transportation costs money. CNG is cheaper, cleaner, and part of a global shift away from internal combustion engines," he explained.

According to him, strategic partnerships and incentives have driven the rapid expansion of CNG capacity across the country.

From just five states with CNG dispensing and conversion facilities a year ago, the number has now risen to

20, with more than 315 conversion centres nationwide. He projected that before the end of 2025, at least 30 states and the Federal Capital Territory would have CNG infrastructure.

He cited major private sector investments, including a N720bn outlay by BUA and Nigerian Bottling Company on CNG trucks and 100 fuelling stations.

Oluwagbemi also urged the protection of CNG allocated for automobiles from being diverted to gas-fired power plants.

According to him, because of the incentive for transition to CNG use, using CNG allows about a 90 per cent discount.

He, however, sought the protection of the CNG allocated for automobile use from being diverted to fuel power plants.

The Portland Gas Ltd Chief Executive Officer, Folajimi Mohammed, described the launched station as a gas hub because it has a combination of everything about gas.

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Local Transport News

Four Hospitalised After Two Fuel Tankers Collide In Zaria

Culled

Four persons were injured and hospitalized when an LPG-laden tanker collided with an empty tanker in Dan Magaji Area along Zaria-Kaduna Expressway.

Nasir Falgore, Unit Commander, Federal Road Safety Commission, Zaria, who confirmed the incident, said the accident occurred about 8.30a.m on Monday morning.

Falgore stated that upon receiving the prompt response from the Service, it was discovered that one of the trucks was loaded with LPG, while the other trailer tanker was empty.

He added that preliminary findings revealed that the LPG truck allegedly rammed into an empty fuel tanker, resulting in an explosion.

According to Falgore, three people in the empty tanker and one from the LPG truck sustained injuries and were rushed to a nearby hospital.

Falgore, however, debunked the involvement of a gulf or any other car in

the accident.

"When we arrived at the scene, it was only the two tankers that were involved in the accident. There was no any small car involved," he said.

He explained that there was no death from the accident, as at the time of filing this report.

Nasir Falgore, Unit Commander, Federal Road Safety Commission, Zaria, who confirmed the incident, said the accident occurred about 8.30a.m on Monday morning. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Tanker Explosion

Culled

The Nigerian Institution of Highways and Transportation Engineers (NIHTE), in partnership with the International Road Federation (IRF), has trained hundreds of engineers to boost Nigeria's road and bridge infrastructure.

Speaking at the opening session of the event in Abuja, the National Chairman of NIHTE, Engr. Francis Oriakhi revealed that their synergy with IRF started about a decade after the inception of the institution, with the training of professionals on road construction, designs, and asset management.

Oriakhi, represented by the immediate past chairman, Engr. Hassan Saidu said: "The cardinal objective of this workshop is to ensure professional development through capacity building and provision of advocacy for our members.

"As part of this capacity-building drive, the institution is partnering with IRF, and the fruitful relationship has led to training for about a thousand engineers, as we are still counting."

According to him, the workshop, themed "Managing Road Infrastructure Assets for

NIHTE, IRF Train Engineers To Improve Road Quality

Sustainability", aims to build capacity, advocate for best practices, and equip engineers, particularly those in MDAs and the private sector, with modern design, construction, and asset management techniques.

He added, "This is another block coastal design for easy accessibility, affordability to the Highway engineers in the MDAs and private sectors in the construction industry, and we are delighted that the synergy with IRF is working out simultaneously.

"The workshop is designed to optimize the performance of the road network over the last circle of its structural infrastructure assets. In essence, it is a process seeking to maintain and improve the performance of the infrastructure assets system.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Enhancing Blue Economy With Improved Security Infrastructure

piracy, oil theft, illegal fishing, bunkering, smuggling and trafficking.

Recall that the Presidency had in 2024 commissioned three newly acquired warships and two helicopters by the Nigerian Navy to strengthen the blue economy's security.

President Bola Tinubu highlighted the importance of a protected maritime environment to ensure the sustainability of the Blue Economy, which has been projected to generate about \$405 billion for the African continent and to create millions of jobs. The Blue Economy holds immense potential to transform Nigeria's economy through fisheries, shipping, offshore oil and gas, tourism, and marine biotechnology among others. Yet, persistent maritime insecurity, including piracy, smuggling, illegal fishing, and oil theft, has long hindered its full realisation.

Initially, the Federal Government through the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), the Nigerian Navy, Air

Force, and other security agencies unveiled the Integrated National Security and Waterways Protection Infrastructure, also known as the Deep Blue Project.

The Deep Blue Project includes 17 Fast Interceptor Boats, two Special Mission Vessels (SMVs), two Special Mission aircraft, to three helicopters, four unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), 16 Armored Vehicles for coastal patrol all inside the Command, Control, and Communication, Computer and Intelligence (C4i) centre.

The project introduced a comprehensive and technology-driven approach to securing Nigeria's territorial waters and the Gulf of Guinea by neutralising piracy, illegal fishing, and oil theft that have long plagued the strategic waterways.

However, despite the existing security model on Nigeria's waters, transnational crime syndicates continued to infiltrate the maritime domain with smuggled hard drugs and stolen vehicles.

Oil theft and illegal bunkers also evaded security with stolen crude, while ships engaged in illicit activities frequently entered the country's waters undetected.

Unregulated fishing continued to drain the country's economy, while sea robbery incidents, particularly in inshore waters and anchorage points, are still reported.

Fearing potential attacks, foreign vessels entering Nigerian waters are compelled to hire mercenaries, often ex-combatants from war zones, as armed escorts to deter and repel threats.

Also, corruption, slow judicial processes, poor and slow maintenance culture of security apparatus and gaps in inter-agency coordination sometimes dilute the impact of maritime interventions.

According to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB), while piracy in the Gulf of Guinea region has declined in recent years due to regional collaboration and increased naval patrols, the threat remains persistent.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Maritime

As the world increasingly turns to the ocean for food, energy, and trade, Nigeria's vast blue economy domain requires improved, effective and sustainable security infrastructure.

Recently, Nigeria added three new patrol ships and two helicopters to its security apparatus to protect the territorial waters as well as reinforce the nation's blue economic foundation, especially in sectors reliant on maritime stability such as oil and gas, fishing, and international trade.

According to the Presidency, the acquisition of the vessels and helicopters aligned with Nigeria's broader national security strategy aimed at combating maritime crimes including



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20 LITERS

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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

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NPA Links 19.6% Export Growth To Ports, Processing Terminals' Efficiency

Culled

The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has attributed the country's 19.6 per cent non-oil export growth in the first half (Q1) to the efficiency of the export processing terminals (EPT) and port operations.

The Managing Director of NPA, Dr Abubakar Dantsoho, commended the excellent work being undertaken by the Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC) as evident in the increased exports passing through the EPT.

He stated this during the recently concluded NPA Management Retreat in Onne, Rivers state, which focused on reviewing and optimising operational processes to enhance service delivery.

Dantsoho tasked his team to renew their commitment towards continuous improvement of port efficiency, which provides the backbone for the positive export performance Nigeria has recorded thus far in the year.



Dr Dantsoho

"We must commit to a mental impact through continuous improvement paradigm of port operations and service delivery that places a high premium on issues of sustainability, minimising environ-

we owe posterity a duty to infuse sustainability paradigms into the way we do things," he said. At the retreat, the NPA management team undertook a business process re-engineering to identify and address

bottlenecks and inefficiencies, ensuring a more customer-centric approach.

Also, the NPA signed a performance bond, which Dantsoho said has reinforced the NPA's commitment to operational excellence and achieving the priorities of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu as directed by the Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola.

He said the strategic initiative underscores NPA's dedication to improving efficiency, customer satisfaction and long-term sustainability in Nigeria's port system.

Dantsoho said the 4.04 million metric tonnes rise in export volume is coming on the heels of the maiden call of the first wholly-Nigerian-owned container vessel 'MV Ocean Dragon' at the NPA Eastern Port of Onne.

He said the vessel, which is scheduled to operate weekly from Onne via Calabar channel, will service ports in Nigeria, Benin Republic, Togo, Ghana, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Egypt and South Africa.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Lack Of Funds Delaying Operation Of Baro Port, Says Oyetola



Oyetola

Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, has said insufficient funding is responsible for the delayed take-off of Baro Port in Niger State.

The minister, however, said that the Federal Government is committed to ensuring that the port is a vibrant inland gateway.

He gave the assurance on Tuesday when he appeared before the House of Representatives Ad-Hoc Committee on Stakeholders' Engagement on the Challenges and Prospects of the Baro River Port.

The adhoc committee was constituted after the adoption of a motion on the need to convene a national stakeholder's engagement on the

challenges and prospects of the Inland Port.

Oyetola acknowledged that the Port has been struggling to operate at capacity since its commissioning in 2019 due to gaps in supporting infrastructure and navigability.

He said, "Although commissioned in 2019 under the past administration, the port has faced operational constraints, chief among them, the absence of critical linkages to road and rail infrastructure, and navigability challenges along the River Niger.

"The challenges are there, no doubt about it. When the issue of the port was being conceived, ordinarily one would have expected that infrastructure that would make it operational should have been provided.

"The ministry was created barely two years ago, so we inherited it from the previous administration. And part of what we're trying to do is to ensure the need to do a lot of dredging.

Unfortunately, we are hampered by the scarcity of funds".

The minister however outlined concrete steps to overcome the existing challenges and unlock Baro Port's full economic potential.

According to him, the measures include improving river navigability through capital and continuous dredging, developing road and rail connections for seamless cargo movement, attracting credible private sector operators through concessions and partnerships, and instituting transparent governance systems.

He informed the Committee that the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) plans to dredge up to 2,000 kilometres of inland waterways, a move that will ensure Baro Port maintains the appropriate depth for year-round operations.

He added, "Our Ministry remains unwavering in its determination to transform Baro from a dormant facility into a thriving inland

gateway. We are working closely with the Federal Ministries of Works and Transportation to deliver an integrated framework that combines infrastructure, operational efficiency, and private sector participation."

Oyetola noted that, Baro River Port which is located in Niger State is strategically positioned to link agricultural value chains and serve as a feeder to Onitsha, Lokoja, and Warri ports.

According to him, once operational, it could significantly boost Nigeria's trade competitiveness under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and ease pressure on the nation's highways.

In his presentation, the Managing Director of the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA), Bola Oyebamiji, recalled that the Baro Port was first established in 1908 by Lord Lugard to facilitate the shipment of agricultural produce and livestock, serving as a major trade link between northern and southern Nigeria.

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Russia Seeks ACMI Deal With Ethiopian Airlines

Culled

Russia wants to wet lease aircraft from Ethiopian Airlines (ET, Addis Ababa International) and has proposed collaboration on aircraft maintenance, noting Ethiopia's existing Boeing accredited MRO capabilities, according to a statement from the Ethiopian Civil Aviation Authority (ECAA).

This follows a visit to Addis Ababa by a Russian delegation led by trade commissioner Yaroslav V. Tarasyuk, which met with Ethiopia's Civil Aviation Authority Director General Yohannes Abera on July 29 to explore expanded bilateral cooperation in aviation, including aircraft leasing, maintenance, and equipment supply.

Facing challenges acquiring additional aircraft during the Russian peak summer season, the Russian delegation sought clarity



from the ECAA regarding the regulations for wet-leasing from Ethiopian Airlines. They also expressed interest in supplying

Ethiopia with Russian-made navigational aid equipment, stating that Russia provides such equipment to many Indian airports.

Thirdly, the Russian

delegation expressed interest in building and expanding MRO facilities in Ethiopia. "As

is known, Ethiopia has a Boeing-accredited MRO, and if Russia is

interested in joining this, there will be an opportunity," the regulator stated.

Tarasyuk reaffirmed Russia's readiness to finalise a bilateral air

transport agreement between the countries. While a bilateral agreement had been signed previously, a new air transport agreement, compliant with Russian law, is in progress and Russia is eager for its speedy conclusion.

He also requested Ethiopia's backing in Russia's bid for re-election to the council of member states during the upcoming 42nd session of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), set to take place from September 23 to October 3 in Montréal.

Abera welcomed Russia's proposals, affirmed opportunities for Russian suppliers to participate in competitive tenders for aviation equipment, and expressed willingness to review Russian collaboration offers regarding MRO facilities after further consultation with stakeholders.

Find Full Story In The Link

Culled

Despite ongoing reforms and efforts to construct new ports and rehabilitate existing ones, world powers, including the United States and Russia, are actively seeking to secure access to the Port of Lomé in Togo which has emerged as a key maritime hub in West Africa.

The increase in volume of trade between Asia and West Africa has seen Lomé port transform into a key regional container port.

Major ocean carriers, specifically MSC, have responded by redeploying ultra-large container vessels

US, Russia Ditch Nigerian Ports, Seeks Access To Togo Ports

(ULCVs) to the route.

This has come as a major boost for liner connectivity of West African ports including Lomé.

In view of these trade advantages, the U.S has pledged to expand its African market access through Lomé port.

Last week, the U.S Embassy in Lomé, led by the Chargé d'Affaires, Richard C. Michaels, conducted a tour of the port facility.

The delegation also held a meeting with the management of Lomé Container Terminal, LCT, to explore commercial opportunities for U.S businesses.

"With advanced deep-water capabilities, cutting-edge equipment, and an annual throughput exceeding 30 million tons, Lomé offers U.S businesses unmatched access to African markets.

"Ongoing infrastructure expansion, including a dry-port and industrial zone, further enhances the port's role as a growing gateway," commented U.S Embassy in Togo.

The port tour followed shortly after U.S President, Donald Trump, met five African

leaders in Washington.

The African leaders were largely from countries in West Africa, including Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauritania and Senegal.

The meeting with Trump concentrated on trade opportunities for both sides, at a time the U.S government is cutting aid in Africa and other regions.

Meanwhile, Russia has ratified its military cooperation agreement with Togo, which was initially signed early this year.

As per the agreement, Russia and Togo will jointly hold military exercises, training exchanges and weapons and military equipment support.

Notably, the agreement also covers support in hydrography, navigation and combating piracy.

According to some observers, the agreement will give Russia unfettered access to Togo's strategic seaport of Lomé. Visit by Russian military ships to ports in Togo is covered by the cooperation.

"Togo is considered the most organised and equipped in Tropical Africa. For example, the busiest seaport in West Africa is located on its territory," said Vladimir Gruzdev, a member of the Russian Government Commission on Legislative Activity, which drafted the ratification law of the defence.

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General News

Nigeria, 12 Others Selected For \$93m US Food And Scheme

Culled:
The United States government has listed Nigeria and 12 other nations among the beneficiaries of its \$93 million emergency food assistance programme set aside to address worsening hunger and malnutrition. Speaking recently at a press briefing, the principal deputy spokesperson for the US state department, Tommy Pigott, said the aid will also cover essential food commodities, targeted nutritional support, and emergency logistics.

"Today marks the first 200 days of the Trump Administration, and with it 200 days of delivering results and real wins for the American people.

Under the leadership of President Trump and Secretary Rubio, the United States is restoring strength, securing prosperity, and standing up for American interests on the world stage," Pigott said.

According to the US Department of State, the programme is expected to provide ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) for nearly one million children suffering from severe malnutrition.

Other benefiting countries are Haiti, Mali, Niger, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Madagascar, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of



US Dept

Congo, Djibouti, Kenya, and Chad.

According to the department, the package includes 1,209 metric tons of existing stock and funds to produce an additional 11,285 metric tons.

The announcement comes a month after the closure of the US Agency for International Development (USAID) under the Trump administration's cost-cutting reforms — a move that drew criticism from former US

leaders and global health experts.

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Nigeria, Benin Kickoff Economic Cooperation Talks

Culled:
Nigeria and the Republic of Benin have begun formal steps to implement the economic cooperation agreement signed during the inaugural West Africa Economic Summit held in Abuja in June.

This development emerged after a two-day bilateral meeting between officials of both countries from August 1–2 in Cotonou, aimed at outlining the framework for economic collaboration.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Bianca Odumegwu-Ojukwu, described the move as aligning with the broader objectives of regional integration championed by the Economic Community of West African States.

Odumegwu-Ojukwu, in a statement signed by her media aide, Magnus Eze, on Sunday, commended President Bola Tinubu's leadership in conceptualising the summit, stating that it is already producing tangible outcomes for regional cooperation.

The minister described the bilateral engagement as timely, emphasising that the two countries were bound not only by geography, but by centuries of shared history, familial ties, culture, commerce and vibrant commercial activity.

According to the statement, Odumegwu-Ojukwu also congratulated Benin on its 65th Independence anniversary, noting that it was fitting that the dialogue was taking place during a moment of national pride.

She stated that the bilateral relationship had evolved over the years. However, she noted that cooperation had remained a constant in addressing shared challenges.

"Our shared successes affirm a truth we must never lose sight of: that cooperation, not conflict; dialogue, not suspicion, remain our best tools for overcoming obstacles," the minister said.

According to her, the visit of the Nigerian delegation was more than just technical discussions.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigeria-US Trade Ties Hold Amid Tariff Shift



FAO

Culled:
The renewed commitment followed a strategic meeting in Abuja between Jumoke Oduwole, Nigeria's Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment and US Deputy, Richard M. Mills

Jr. and incoming U.S. Consul General to Nigeria, Rick Swart.

At the centre of discussions was the evolving trade landscape triggered by a July 31 Executive Order signed by US President Donald Trump, which officially placed Nigeria

among a list of approximately 40 Countries subject to elevated tariffs under a revised reciprocal trade policy.

The new rate, up from 14% in April to 15% takes effect on August 7, 2025.

Oduwole acknowledged that Nigeria's tariff on trade with the United States had moved from 14% to 15%, clarifying that despite this adjustment, Nigeria remains a favorable environment for US investors.

She emphasised the scale of duty-free machinery, equipment and services entering Nigeria from the US, underlining the mutually beneficial nature of this commercial exchange.

She highlighted the ongoing business-to-business engagements stemming from the

commercial investment partnership launched on June 24th, "which continues with momentum and are set to culminate in a Ministerial meeting on November 20th. This underscores the enduring relationship between both nations and their shared commitment to economic collaboration,"

Oduwole reiterated Nigeria's dedication to advancing food sovereignty, digital trade, and competitiveness under President Bola Tinubu's "Nigeria First Policy and Intervention" initiative.

She noted that recent monetary, fiscal, and trade reforms had yielded measurable results in stabilising the economy and setting it on a growth trajectory.

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ANNIH

FIRS, BOI, NITDA, Others Partner ANNIH To Drive New Nigeria Narrative

Culled:

In order to bolster the President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda, Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), Bank of Industry, BOI), National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) and Sahara Energy, have formed a partnership with Lead Projects Africa, a member of the Bullion Projects Group, to unveil the season 2 of "A New Nigeria Is Here: Season 2" (ANNIH S2).

According to a statement, the partnership was unveiled during the media engagement meeting for ANNIH S2 at Transcorp Hilton Abuja recently.

The organisers stated that the season 2 of A New Nigeria Is Here documentary series will commence airing on August 12th, 2025 on Channels Network, News Central Africa with a review on CNN and special Unicorn editions on CNBC Africa, AIT NETWORK, TVC and Arise News, to reach every corner of the globe through the YouTube Channels, Africa Got Stories.

Speaking at the media parley, Project Coordinator of ANNIH, Jide Peters in the statement said, "This isn't just a documentary series; it's a cinematic journey, a weekly exploration into the heart of Nigeria's transformative

odyssey and economic drivers under President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's Renewed Hope."

"With the endorsement of the Presidency, the Minister of Information and National Orientation, Mohammed Idris Malagi, and executive oversight from the Office of the Coordinating Minister of the Economy, this landmark project is poised to amplify Nigeria's powerful emergence as Africa's undeniable innovation and economic powerhouse", Jide added.

He said, "ANNIH S2 is more than a documentary series; it is a vibrant tapestry woven from public and private sector triumphs, blending exclusive,

candid interviews with grassroots storytelling and profound policy insights. Each compelling 30-minute episode promises to captivate an estimated 300 million viewers globally."

This season delves deep into the key pillars defining Nigeria's "Fennaissance" (Financial + Renaissance), which is economic renaissance unpacking the bold reforms in fiscal policy, the relentless drive in infrastructure development, and the explosive growth in digital innovation that are propelling Nigeria toward its ambitious goal towards a \$1 trillion economy.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

APC Threatens Nigeria's Unity, Progress - El-Rufai

Former Kaduna State Governor, Nasir El-Rufai, has called for collective efforts to sack the ruling All Progressives Congress in the 2027 general elections.

El-Rufai, who visited Sokoto State on Saturday as part of his grassroots mobilisation campaign to galvanise support for the opposition coalition, said the country's prospects would be at risk if the APC was given another chance.

He described the APC as "incompetent and clannish," warning that the party's continued stay in power posed a threat to the country's unity and progress.

Speaking at a series of meetings with political stakeholders, youth groups, and women from across the 23 local government areas of the state, El-Rufai emphasised the urgent need to rescue the nation from what he termed "poor governance and failed

leadership."

"I didn't get into politics to enrich myself but to serve. And when a government ceases to serve the people, it is my duty as a senior citizen to not only speak out but take action to reverse the situation," he said.

The former governor noted that the opposition coalition's adoption of the African Democratic Congress as its platform for 2027 was a strategic move to unite Nigerians under a

credible alternative that prioritises national interest over personal ambitions.

He said, "If we allow this APC government another term, what remains of Nigeria's social fabric may be destroyed. This is the fight of our lives."

El-Rufai said the coalition would continue to mobilise Nigerians across the country to resist and vote out the ruling party.
[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

DRIVING SCHOOLS AND SAFETY ALLIANCE AFRICA - DSSAA

DSSAA INITIATIVES AND CAUSES

1. African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP) - This will be an online Academy for the training of Driving School Instructors and Road Safety professionals.
2. Africa Road Transport Safety Summit and Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO) - The largest gathering of Researchers and Industry Leaders in Road Transport Safety featuring exhibitions of technology devices and Innovations.
3. Africa Safe School Volunteer Project (ASSVP) - A social responsibility project that members of DSSAA will get directly involved in their various countries which includes volunteering to control traffic and help Children cross the Road during school hours in schools, funding installation of STOP Road signs and marking of zebra crossings at school Intersections, as well as carrying out the training of children on Road Safety practices in schools.
4. Africa Road Safety Partnerships and Research board (ARSPARB)- A hub for the advancement of partnerships with development agencies, National Governments and corporations as well as a Research Faculty for Road Safety Research Projects.

About DSSAA

Driving Schools and Safety Alliance Africa - DSSAA is Africa's premier Professional Association of Driving School Owners, Instructors, Driver Assessors and Road Safety professionals.

It is registered in the Gambia and UK with National offices in all the Capital cities in Africa.

DSSAA aims to bring all the critical stakeholders together to build the capacity of Driving School operators and support Road Safety through advocacy, public education, lobbying, fund raising, training and certification.

We are the promoters of various Road Transport Safety initiatives and programmes among which are the African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP), Africa Road Transport Safety Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO), Africa Safe school volunteer project (ASSVP) and the Africa Road Safety Partnership and Research board (ARSPARB) domiciled in our Overseas Office in Bournemouth United Kingdom.

Membership is open to Road Safety advocates all over the world.

DSSAA

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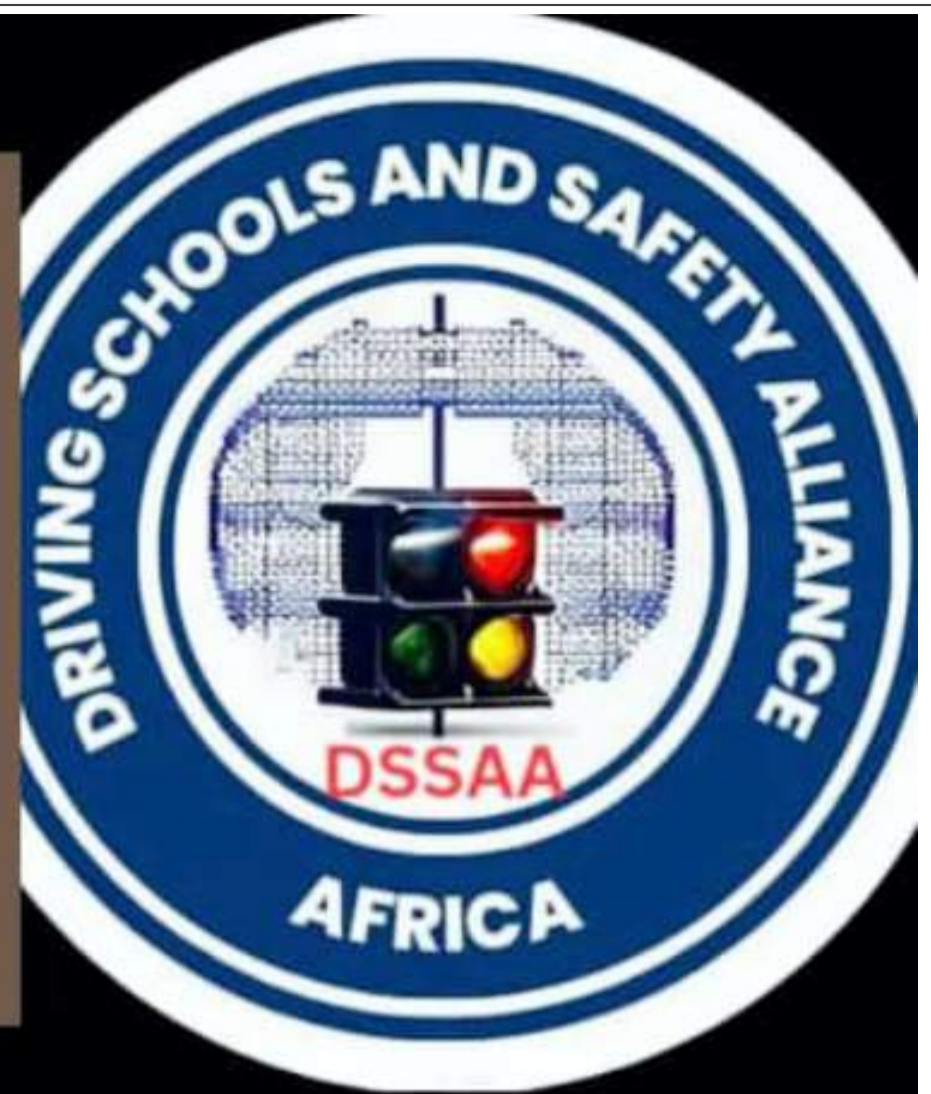


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