

Okun Nation Decries Deplorable State Of Kabba-Isanlu-Egbe-Ilorin Road

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GLOBAL REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS TRANSPORTATION

thelandmarkinfo.com.ng | Global Transportation E- Reports | Global_GTE Wed, August 27th 2025 E - NEWSPAPER

Dangote's 1000 Trucks Arrive, Fuel Distribution To Begin From South West

Barring any last-minute change in plan, the Dangote Petroleum Refinery is expected to start its direct fuel distribution scheme soon, as 1,000 Compressed Natural Gas-powered trucks required for the exercise have arrived in Nigeria. With the 1,000 trucks, the refinery would start distributing fuel directly to marketers in Lagos, Ogun, and other South-West states, pending the delivery of the remaining 3,000 trucks. Impeccable sources and officials at the

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FRSC Kogi Hosts Town Hall Meeting To Promote Road Safety P2

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Five Dead, Others Injured In Ebonyi Road Accident P5



Alhaji Aliko Dangote, Chairman Dangote Group

NDDC Will Support Security Agencies To Secure Waterways - Ogbuku

According to Ogbuku: "The blue economy is central to the future of the Niger Delta region. It will strengthen our economy, lessen the burden of youth unemployment, improve food security, and support efforts to adapt to climate change." The NDDC boss, who led a team from the Commission, including the Executive Director of Finance and Administration, Alabo Boma Iyaye, observed that the national policy on marine and blue economy would require the support of the security agencies to

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Dantoshu Elected Vice-President Of Global Ports Body

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Local Transport News

FRSC, EFCC Partner To Tackle Economic Sabotage, Road Crashes

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) have entered into a strategic partnership to curb economic sabotage and reduce road traffic crashes (RTCs) in the country.

The agreement was reached when the FRSC Corps Marshal, Malam Shehu Mohammed, led his team on a courtesy visit to the EFCC Chairman, Ola Olukoyede, on Tuesday in Abuja.

Speaking during the strategic engagement, the FRSC boss amplified the urgent need for the strategic partnership between the agencies to confront the twin threats of reckless driving and its attendant fatalities.

This, he said, was in addition to the financial hemorrhage resulting from such recklessness.

Mohammed maintained that road safety was not merely a transport issue but a national security and economic imperative.

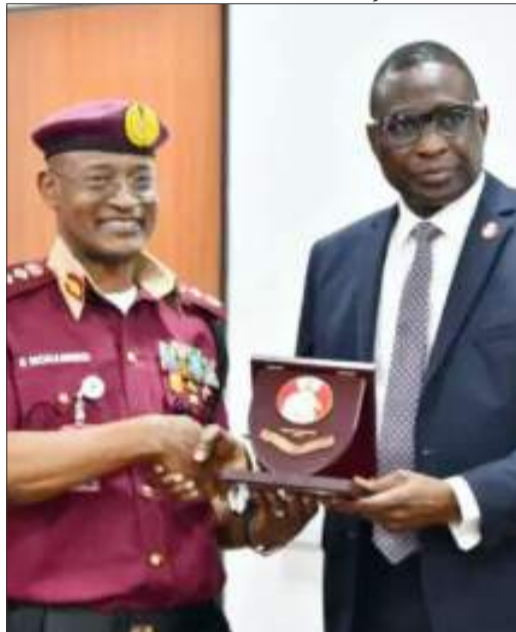
He said that it required a multi-sectoral

approach to safeguard human lives and stabilise Nigeria's economic trajectory.

He, however, said the alliance between the two institutions signalled that unlawful transport practices and road carnage would no longer be tolerated.

He added that the partnership represented integrity, law enforcement and public safety, while setting a new standard for institutional collaboration to protect lives, preserve resources and secure the future.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



FRSC partners EFCC

FRSC Kogi Hosts Town Hall Meeting To Promote Road Safety

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) Kogi State Sector Command, in collaboration with the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Road Safety Matters, convened a town hall meeting targeted at promoting road safety.

The meeting themed, "Better Road Culture and Reducing Road Traffic Crashes in Kogi State." Held in Lokoja, the event brought together drivers, transport unions, stakeholders, and community representatives to address the pressing issue of road traffic crashes in the state, which serves as a critical transportation hub connecting ten other states in Nigeria.

The Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Road Safety Matters, Yusuf Suberu, emphasised the need for collective action.

"To achieve these results, there is a need for the active engagement of critical stakeholders across the state," said Suberu

He added that collaboration with agencies like the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) would strengthen enforcement and sensitisation efforts, particularly addressing drug abuse as a significant factor in road crashes.

The Kogi State Sector Commander of the FRSC, Kumar Tsukwam, reiterated the corps' commitment to leveraging partnerships to enhance road safety.

"This collaboration between the Corps and the state government would enable the Corps to cascade the message down to the grassroots to ensure that road accidents reduce drastically," he said.

The town hall also addressed infrastructural challenges, with stakeholders calling for urgent improvements to Kogi's road network.

The meeting themed, "Better Road Culture and Reducing Road Traffic Crashes in Kogi State." Held in Lokoja, the event brought together drivers, transport unions, stakeholders, and

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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The people of Okun in Kogi State have called on President Bola Tinubu and the state Governor, Usman Ododo, to rescue them from the consequences of the deplorable state of the Kabba-Isanlu-Egbe-Ilorin road.

In an open letter written to President Tinubu, and made available to THISDAY yesterday, the people, under the umbrella of Okun Liberty Association (OLA), lamented the negative effects of the deplorable state of the road, calling on the government to urgently commence its rehabilitation in order to save lives and curb insecurity in the state.

In the letter signed by its President-General, Chief Akere Owoniyi, with the National Assembly and Ministry of Works in copy, the group said: "We, the entire membership of the Okun Liberty Association, a body representing the interests and aspirations of the Okun people of Kogi State, write to you today not just as an association, but as deeply concerned citizens of our beloved nation, with a heavy heart and a fervent plea for



Kabba-Ilorin Road

your urgent intervention in a matter of critical national importance: the tragic and continued neglect of the Kabba-Isanlu-Egbe-Ilorin Road."

Describing the road as a national artery in ruins, Chief Owoniyi added: "This 130-kilometre stretch of road, which serves as a vital artery connecting Kogi State to Kwara State and linking the entire North Central region to the

Southwest, has been abandoned to disrepair for over a decade. Once a thriving trade and travel route, it has today become a graveyard of commuters, a haven for criminals, and a symbol of national neglect.

"The scale of hardship defies description. This is not simply a road with potholes; it is a catastrophic landscape of collapsed sections, craters, and eroded shoulders.

For the ordinary Nigerian farmers, students, traders, and travellers, it is a daily ordeal."

Lamenting the dire consequences the state of the road has brought to the people, the group said a lot of precious lives have been lost through avoidable accidents almost weekly, as "vehicles overturn, brakes fail, and passengers perish on treacherous terrain.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Local Transport News

NAMA Receives NCAA Certificate For Air Traffic Control Simulator

Culled

The Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) has recorded another milestone in its drive to enhance air traffic management and capacity building with the official presentation of the Air Traffic Control (ATC) Simulator Certificate from the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA).

The Certificate was formally presented to Farouk Ahmed Umar, the managing director/Chief Executive of NAMA, by John Tayo, the Director of Air Traffic Control.

While presenting the Certificate, Tayo acknowledged the vital contributions and untiring efforts of the Local Management at Mallam Aminu Kano International Airport (MAKIA), as well as the Department of Technical Evaluation and Manpower Development under the Directorate of Air Traffic Control, in making the achievement possible.

Receiving the Certificate on behalf of the Agency, the MD/CE, Umar,

expressed his excitement and commended the collaborative efforts that led to the successful certification.

He further emphasised that the ATC Simulator will play a critical role in strengthening manpower development, improving operational efficiency, and ensuring safer skies within Nigeria's airspace.

This development marks a significant step towards advancing aviation training and sustaining global best practices in air traffic management.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Umar

411 Nigerians Die From Explosions While Scooping Fuel In 2024 - FRSC

Culled

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Benue Sector Command, has said that 411 Nigerians lost their lives while scooping fuel from fallen tankers in 2024.

The Sector Commander, Mr. Steve Ayodele, made the disclosure in Makurdi on Tuesday at a town hall meeting with trailer and tanker drivers on crash prevention.

Ayodele said that the number represents 7.6 per cent of total road traffic deaths in 2024 alone, noting it was beyond fatalities.

The sector commander said that the town hall meeting with the theme "Discourage Fuel Scooping and Other Anti-Road Traffic Attitudes" was to mitigate such crashes.

"Tanker explosions often cause life-threatening burns and destroy shops, vehicles, and infrastructure, while also deepening the economic hardships of victims' families.

"Fuel scooping and other anti-traffic

behaviours were turning avoidable road accidents into major disasters.

"Tanker and trailer crashes often leave behind devastating consequences, worsening tragedies with unsafe conduct of people at crash sites.

"Fuel scooping, reckless driving, disobedience to traffic rules, and roadside trading near accident-prone areas are actions that put lives at risk.

"Fuel scooping has become one of the deadliest practices on Nigerian roads. Instead of recognising spilled fuel as a hazard, many Nigerians rush to collect it.

"We have witnessed tragic incidents where lives were lost due to fires caused by this reckless act," Ayodele said.

The sector commander stressed that unregulated driving hours, overloaded tankers, and inadequate safety inspections remain major contributors to accidents.

He called on participants, including drivers, community leaders, and government agencies, to commit to changing attitudes and protecting lives.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Despite FG's Promise, Ekiti, Ondo Federal Roads Still Impassable

Culled

Residents and transporters are groaning over the deplorable state of the Ado-Ijan-Iluomoba-Ikare Road, a federal road in Ekiti State that links major educational institutions, the state's cargo airport, and key investment corridors.

The highway, which connects Ekiti and Ondo states to Abuja, the northern parts of the country, and the South-West, has been in a terrible state for years.

Apart from serving as a gateway for interstate traffic, it is the access route to Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti; the Federal Polytechnic, Ado Ekiti; the Ekiti Cargo International Airport; and the Ekiti Knowledge Zone.

But commuters and residents say the road has now become a nightmare. Trucks and luxury buses routinely get trapped in craters and failed portions, forcing travelers to spend long hours — sometimes days — stranded.

A motorist, Bimbo Oladoye, described the situation as unbearable.

"What we suffer on this road is much. Nobody can quantify it. Apart from the



Governor Oyejibami

daily manhour loss, there is the aspect of damage to our vehicles and other security threats.

We learnt the contract for the rehabilitation of this road has been awarded, but there is no proof as the road remains in a bad state. We call on the Federal Government to do something urgently."

The Deputy Vice Chancellor of ABUAD, Prof. Supo Ijabadeniyi, also lamented the

impact on the institution's operations.

"If the university is more accessible, it will attract patronage from both local and international audience, as a result of which, it would win more laurels for the state and country at large."

The road has repeatedly drawn government assurances.

Last year, the Senate Leader, Senator Opeyemi Bamidele, representing Ekiti Central, disclosed that President Bola

Tinubu had approved its reconstruction.

In March 2024, the Minister of Works, Dave Umahi, also promised that work would be expedited to deliver critical roads in Ekiti.

Yet, nearly 18 months later, little has changed.

Recently, a governorship aspirant of the People's Democratic Party in Ekiti, Emmanuel Fayose, ran into a gridlock at Iluomoba, where commuters and truck drivers had been trapped for days.

Fayose intervened by providing truckloads of gravel to fill gaping potholes to ease movement.

The PDP chieftain decried the neglect, saying: "Vehicles are constantly breaking down and the lack of maintenance is not only causing inconvenience, but also posing a significant risk to lives.

As you enter Ekiti State, you will be greeted by potholed roads that are detrimental to vehicles and human lives. It is disheartening to see that the government has neglected these critical infrastructure projects."

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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Local Transport News

Five Dead, Others Injured In Ebonyi Road Accident

Culled

At least five people lost their lives, and several others sustained injuries in a fatal road accident on Monday near the Ebonyi State University (EBSU) permanent site at Ezzamgbo, Ohaukwu Local Government Area of Ebonyi State.

The accident involved a commercial bus loaded with passengers travelling from Benue to Onitsha and a 911 truck transporting bags of sachet water from Enugu to Abakaliki.

An eyewitness, Goddy Ogba, said that the accident was due to brake failure of the truck laden with bags of water, leading to the loss of many lives.

He attributes the accident to the police checkpoint and blockage of the road and calls for the dismantling of the checkpoint for the safety of the road users.

"The collision, which claimed several lives and left many others injured, has once again highlighted the dangers associated with the Ishieke Police checkpoint.

"Policemen manning the checkpoint at

the scene blocked the road in the night, which created hazardous conditions that contributed to the tragic incident.

"This unfortunate event adds to the growing number of accidents reported around the Ishieke axis, where similar practices by checkpoint officers have repeatedly endangered road users.

"Families are mourning, and survivors are battling for their lives, all of which could have been avoided with better traffic management and enforcement practices," he said. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)



The accidental bus

Culled

Dr. Abubakar Dantsoho, Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), has been elected Vice-President for Africa of the International Association for Ports & Harbours (IAPH), further cementing Nigeria's growing influence in global maritime affairs.

The election, held in Tokyo, marks another milestone for Dantsoho, who previously made history as the first Nigerian to lead the Port Management Association of West and Central Africa since its establishment in 1972.

Confirming the victory in a statement on Tuesday, NPA spokesperson Ikechukwu Onyemekara said the appointment reflects international recognition of Nigeria's renewed leadership in maritime development. IAPH Secretary-General Masahiko Furuichi also welcomed the development, noting, "I am delighted to work together with you in IAPH for the years to come."

Dantsoho's leadership at the NPA has been marked by major operational

Dantsoho Elected Vice-President Of Global Ports Body

gains, including a significant rise in non-oil exports and an improved trade balance. According to the Nigerian Export Processing Council (NEPC), non-oil exports rose by 19.59% in the first half of 2025 to \$3.225 billion, while export volumes on NPA platforms climbed to 4.04 million metric tonnes. The Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG) also credited these reforms with helping Nigeria achieve a trade surplus for the first time in years.

Founded in 1955 and headquartered in Tokyo, IAPH is a global alliance of more than 190 ports and 167 port-related businesses across 89 countries. Collectively, its members handle over 60% of the world's seaborne trade and container traffic. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Aviation Ministry To Digitalise Processes To Boost Productivity



Dr. Kana

The federal government has disclosed plans to digitalise its processes to boost productivity, curb corruption and save time.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Dr. Ibrahim Kana, said there was an urgent need for the staff of the ministry to adopt digital processes in line with technological innovation across the world.

He urged staff of the ministry who were not computer literate to buckle up in order not to be left behind.

Dr. Kana disclosed this in Abuja on Tuesday at the mid-year workers and stakeholders sensitisation programme organised by the

Joint Consultative Negotiating Council (JCNC) of the ministry with the theme, strategic management, labour collaboration: a veritable platform for achieving the aviation ministerial mandate.

Kana said, "We want to ensure that we have a good working relationship because if the environment is conducive, it will be evident in our output. In essence, a good working environment boosts productivity.

The minister and I have the same views on all aspects of our work. This is 2025, and the world has become fully digitised. Our ministries must be digitised. That is the policy of governments, and we will ensure that we institutionalise electronic content management.

"There's no reason why I should be writing on paper files in this age and time. I feel very bad whenever I do so and I feel it is time to change. We all move around with big Android phones, and that can be our offices too. For those without Android

phones to do their jobs, we are going to procure more computers to make their jobs easier. We are ready to go digital and those who are not computer-literate should buckle up".

On the procurement of computers, he said, "We are going to procure computers but not laptops because we have observed that people carry laptops to their houses and give them to their children, and some give them to their girlfriends. We have also seen cases where those who are transferred to other agencies or ministries go with the government's laptops, so, we are not going to buy laptops."

The chairman of the JCNC, Comrade Hector Nnadi, said the programme was organised to sensitise aviation workers on the need to close the gap between the minister's agenda and the ministry's mandate.

He said, "Ministerial mandate is a broad, legally defined set of responsibilities assigned to the ministry, while a minister's agenda is

a personal plan of action and specific goals in the ministry which may help achieve the mandate. We all know that the ministry is mandated to formulate, supervise and manage the nation's Aviation and aerospace policies, fostering a safe, secure and efficient aviation industry in line with best global standards and practices.

"The minister's agenda includes ensuring strict compliance with safety and regulations, infrastructure development, support for local operators and revenue generation.

"As workers, we are the heart of this industry and our dedication, resilience, and professionalism are keys to keeping this sector on the move by closing in between our mandate as a ministry and the areas the minister wants to achieve."

The Director of Human Resource Management of the Ministry, Sani Bello, said a strategic synergy and harmonious relationship is a catalyst for driving the ministerial objectives targeted at growth, development and expansion in the aviation sector. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)



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Dangote's 1000 Trucks Arrive, Fuel Distribution To Begin From South West

Culled

Barring any last-minute change in plan, the Dangote Petroleum Refinery is expected to start its direct fuel distribution scheme soon, as 1,000 Compressed Natural Gas-powered trucks required for the exercise have arrived in Nigeria.

With the 1,000 trucks, the refinery would start distributing fuel directly to marketers in Lagos, Ogun, and other South-West states, pending the delivery of the remaining 3,000 trucks.

Impeccable sources and officials at the \$20bn Lekki-based plant, who did not want to be named due to a lack of authorisation to speak to the press, told our correspondent that more trucks have been coming into the country in batches. They expressed optimism that all the trucks would be delivered by the end of next month.

The PUNCH exclusively reported last week that the planned fuel distribution by the Dangote refinery with the 4,000 CNG-powered trucks could not start on August



Dangote

15 due to logistics challenges in China. The Dangote's direct fuel firm had earlier announced plans to kick off the direct fuel distribution exercise with the 4,000 CNG-powered trucks. The trucks were ordered from China to be delivered in Lagos for total to 600 trucks last week. But on Sunday, sources within the company said the number of trucks received had risen to 1,000, while the remaining 3,000 are expected to arrive before the end of September.

A very senior executive officer of the Dangote Group told our correspondent that there were not enough ships to transport the trucks to Nigeria from China. This challenge stalled the shipping of the trucks to Nigeria before August 15, when the scheme was supposed to commence.

"There are not enough ships coming from China to handle 4,000 trucks and 4,000 tankers," the source stated last week. He gave further insights, saying the Dangote Group received 200 trucks in the first shipment and 250 in the second batch, while another 150 were on a vessel.

Meanwhile, sources told our correspondent on Sunday that more trucks were received in the previous week. According to the sources, all the trucks have been paid for and are ready to be conveyed to Nigeria, but this has been difficult due to insufficient ships to handle the logistics. With 1,000 trucks in custody, the fuel distribution will commence in Lagos and the South West before the scheme spreads to other zones as the remaining trucks arrive at the Lagos port. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

NDDC Will Support Security Agencies To Secure Waterways



Ogbuku receiving an award

According to Ogbuku: "The blue economy is central to the future of the Niger Delta region. It will strengthen our economy, lessen the burden of youth unemployment, improve food security, and support efforts to adapt to climate change." The NDDC boss, who led a team from the Commission, including the Executive Director of Finance and Administration, Alabo Boma Iyaye, observed that the national policy on marine and blue economy would require the support of the security agencies to succeed. He emphasised the need for collaboration to ensure that the Niger Delta region remained peaceful, noting that development could only take place in an atmosphere of peace and

security.

He stated: "President Bola Ahmed Tinubu is committed to the peace and development of the Niger Delta region, and he has given us a matching order to embark on legacy projects that will stand the test of time and impact lives in the region. We cannot achieve this if there is no peace."

"For us in NDDC, we will continue to collaborate with the security agencies to ensure that there is sustainable peace that will usher in development. The security forces have made so many sacrifices to ensure the safety of the region, and we will complement their efforts by executing legacy projects."

Ogbuku noted: "We have always supported military formations and security agencies, and we are willing to do more. Last year, we did a lot for the Nigerian Navy, the Army and the Police. Our contributions are aimed at enhancing and supporting what the security agencies are doing."

The Managing Director affirmed that the Commission was engaging all stakeholders to ensure harmony and cooperation in the task of developing the hitherto neglected Niger Delta region.

Speaking of the achievements of the commission in the last 25 years, he hinted that the frequent changes in management and boards of NDDC have caused setbacks to development in the region.

He stated, "For us at NDDC, we are targeting legacy projects. Our mandate is to complete those critical projects. We are intervening in critical areas because they are our responsibility."

Ogbuku stated that under the leadership of the current Board and Management, the Commission has demonstrated a commitment to achieving the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Tinubu, who is concerned about the development of the Niger Delta region.

The Managing Director affirmed the

positive impact of the "Light Up the Niger Delta" campaign, which he observed had reduced criminality in the various communities and enhanced commercial activities in the areas.

He noted: "We decided to adopt the clean energy approach, which not only provides light but helps in the fight to mitigate the effects of climate change on our environment and earn carbon credits for the Commission."

Ogbuku told the body of lawyers that the commission was making progress with its various youth development and empowerment schemes, including building a comprehensive database of the youth population of the Niger Delta region.

Ogbuku said further: "We have also inaugurated the Niger Delta Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Trade, Mines and Agriculture, NDCCITMA, which, along with the Bank of Industry, will serve as a platform for supporting young entrepreneurs in the region on a sustainable basis. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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RwandaAir To Expand Fleet To 21 Aircraft By 2029

Culled

RwandAir (WB, Kigali) plans to expand its fleet from 14 to at least 21 aircraft by 2029 and, through network growth and strengthened strategic partnerships, more than double its annual passenger numbers to 2.1 million as outlined in the country's Transport Sector Strategic Plan 2024-2029.

This will involve acquiring more A330s for long-haul routes, B737-800s for regional and medium-haul destinations, and DHC-8-Q400s for shorter domestic routes, chief commercial officer Fouad Caunhye told Rwanda's The New Times newspaper in an interview.

He said the national carrier is also reinforcing its fleet in 2025/26 with three aircraft - two B737-800s and one A330-200 - to restore capacity after recent technical issues sidelined several units. "These additions will give us the



flexibility we need to pursue the route expansions that were previously put on hold," he declared. It is not immediately clear if these units will be bought, dry-

or wet-leased.

He acknowledged recent operational disruptions linked to temporary fleet capacity constraints. "We have faced some operational disruptions

recently because of the capacity issues I mentioned. Our immediate priority is to stabilise and optimise our performance across our existing network. With

the new aircraft joining the fleet, we will be able to improve scheduling and reliability, which will provide a strong foundation for adding more destinations in the

future," Caunhye said.

RwandAir current fleet of 14 aircraft includes three A330s (two A330-200s and one A330-300), six B737-800s, one B737-800 (SF), two CRJ900ERs, and two-Q400s. Alongside fleet growth, Caunhye said RwandAir plans to increase its route network from 23 destinations to 29 by 2028/29. New services to Mombasa (Kenya) and Zanzibar (Tanzania) are scheduled, while frequencies to London Heathrow and Dubai International are being increased, and flights to Guangzhou (China) may be resumed. The carrier is also positioning Kigali as a regional hub, supported by a new airport under construction.

Regarding strategic partnerships, the airline continues to deepen ties with Qatar Airways and is in advanced talks with the Qatar [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. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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General News

Nigeria, Brazil Sign Five MoUs As Tinubu Welcomes Petrobras Imminent Return

Culled:
Nigeria and Brazil on Monday signed five Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) covering trade, diplomacy, science, aviation and finance, in a move both countries described as a turning point in their long-standing bilateral relations.

The agreements, witnessed at the Palácio do Planalto in Brasília, were announced at a joint press conference where President Bola Ahmed Tinubu hailed the imminent return of Brazil's state-owned oil giant, Petrobras, to Nigeria.

According to a statement by his Special Adviser on Information and Strategy, Bayo Onanuga, President Tinubu said the resumption of Petrobras' operations, five years after it halted joint ventures in Nigeria, would reignite economic cooperation in the energy sector.

"We have the largest gas repository. So I don't see why Petrobras doesn't join as a partner in Nigeria as soon as possible. I appreciate President Lula's promise that this will be done as soon as possible," he declared.

The President praised his Brazilian counterpart, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, for committing to revitalising



Nigeria, Brazil sign five MoUs

the partnership between the two nations.

"Nigeria's economic space remains a virgin land, full of opportunities for Brazilian companies," Tinubu said, while acknowledging Embraer's role in boosting local airline operations through plans for a service centre in Nigeria to support maintenance and repairs.

Reflecting on his past engagements in Brazil, Tinubu urged a shift from symbolic gestures to

tangible cooperation.

"Honourable Ministers of both countries, members of the Brazil Business Group, I have listened carefully to my friend, President Lula. We had a lengthy discussion. We talked about history and about African and Brazilian heritage.

"We tried to see why we are not at the level we wanted. We have allowed some problems and activities in the past to deter us from making progress and

fulfilling our promises. But today we say that is the end of that," he said.

Tinubu stressed Nigeria's readiness to partner with Brazil in technology transfer, food security, renewable energy, and manufacturing.

"Today, we are fighting and working hard to bring our sovereignty to the level of expectation that we as a nation, the most populous, the most dynamic country, Nigeria, share with Brazil.

Find Full Story In The Link

Lagos Badminton Classic 2025 Set To Take Off

Culled:
The Badminton Federation of Nigeria (BFN), in collaboration with the Badminton World Federation (BWF), is proud to announce that the prestigious Lagos International Badminton Classic 2025 will take place from August 27 to 30 at the Teslim Balogun Indoor Sports Hall, Surulere, Lagos.

The Lagos International Badminton Classic, sanctioned by the BWF, has grown into one of Africa's premier badminton competitions, offering athletes from across the globe a vital opportunity to earn ranking points toward World Championships and Olympic Games qualification.

This year's edition promises to be the most competitive yet, as players from 31 countries across Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Americas are confirmed to participate.

Among the participating nations are: India, Japan, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, France, USA, Canada, Nigeria, and Egypt, alongside other countries making the tournament a truly global affair.

The Lagos International Badminton Classic continues to solidify Nigeria's reputation as a host of world-class sporting events. Athletes from diverse nations are expected to bring their finest form to Lagos, delivering four days of high-intensity matches filled with speed, strategy, and skill.

Speaking on the significance of the tournament, Francis Orbih, Esq- President of the Badminton Federation of Nigeria, stated:

"The Lagos International Badminton Classic is a cornerstone of Nigeria's international sports calendar. Beyond competition, it provides our athletes with global exposure while positioning Lagos as a key destination for badminton development on the continent. We are excited to welcome the world once again."

Over 120 Players from the following countries are confirmed for the championship, Saudi Arabia, USA, Norway, France, Ireland, Nigeria, Israel, Indonesia, Italy, Greece,

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Nigeria Records 46% Decline In Variant Poliovirus Cases



Polio Virus

Culled:
The National Primary Healthcare Development Agency (NPHCDA) said Nigeria has recorded a 46 per cent decline in variant poliovirus cases compared to the previous year.

The NPHCDA announcement was made on Tuesday in Abuja, during the Second Quarter 2025 review meeting of the Northern Traditional Leaders Committee on Primary Health Care Delivery (NTLC).

The News Agency of Nigeria

(NAN) reports that the meeting was chaired by His Highness, Sa'Maila Muhammad Mera, Emir of Argungu.

NAN also reports that polio or poliomyelitis is a highly contagious viral disease that mainly affects children under five. It can cause paralysis, respiratory problems, and sometimes death. The virus spreads through contaminated food, water, or direct contact. Most infections show no symptoms, but some cause fever, fatigue, and limb pain.

Polio is completely preventable through vaccination, which is why campaigns like Nigeria's NTLC-led efforts are critical.

In his welcome remarks, Mera urged members to intensify their efforts, stressing that the final

stretch in the fight against poliovirus was often the toughest.

"We must not relent in our commitment to stopping the transmission of cVPPV2 in our Emirates and Kingdoms.

"It is indeed a sacred duty we owe our people, whom Almighty Allah has placed under our care," he said.

The Emir also bemoaned the challenges in the uptake of other integrated services during vaccination campaigns, noting low acceptance of HPV vaccines and anti-malaria interventions in some areas.

He called on traditional leaders to educate communities, reassure caregivers, and mobilise households to embrace all vaccines.

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Health Workers

Nigeria's Health System May Cripple Soon Over Health Workers Exodus

Culled: Kola Afolabi, Managing Director, Ago Medical Centre, Okota, Lagos, has raised concern over the worsening exodus of Nigerian health workers, warning that the trend if allowed to continue without putting a check, could cripple the country's healthcare system within the next 15 years.

Afolabi expressed this concern while speaking with newsmen at the reopening of the hospital, which took place at the weekend and attended by dignitaries, with Chairman of the occasion being the Secretary of Pan- Democracy Group, the

National Democratic Coalition (NADECO), Ayo Opadokun, sadly saying that hospitals in the Country finds it increasingly difficult to recruit doctors and nurses and, therefore, the need for the government to urgently address the situation.

The Ago Medical Centre, first established years ago, was rebuilt after its previous facility was gutted by fire on February 28, 2025.

"Most of us here find it very difficult to get personnel to run our hospital facilities. Doctors are scarce, and nurses are also scarce.

"The way the younger ones are going abroad, I don't know who will

treat those of us remaining in another 10 or 15 years if the government fails to prioritise health services", he said.

He, however, enjoined the Government to stem the "japa" wave among health workers by improving conditions of service, providing modern facilities and offering competitive salaries.

His comments came weeks after Bala Audu, Professor and President of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), disclosed that only about 30,000 doctors are currently practising in the Country, despite its estimated population of 240 million.

This was just as the NMA boss noted that at least 15,000 doctors left Nigeria in the last five years, pushing the doctor-to-patient ratio to 1:8,000.

Afolabi commended community members and well-wishers, who supported him after the fire incident that gutted the previous facility last February 28, saying the new centre was better equipped to handle a wide range of medical services, including surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, preventive care, physiotherapy, infertility treatment, and laboratory services.

Find Full Story In The Link

Borno State Unveils Achievements In New Publication

The Borno State government in Northeast Nigeria, has unveiled the sixth edition of 'The Verdict,' a detailed publication highlighting the policies, activities, and achievements of Governor Babagana Zulum's administration, with particular focus on post-conflict recovery and resilience.

The Verdict provides citizens with a comprehensive look at the administration's initiatives in

governance, security, and social development, showcasing efforts to rebuild communities affected by conflict and strengthen the state's path to lasting peace and growth.

The launch, which coincided with Governor Zulum's 56th birthday, was held at the office of the Deputy Governor, Umar Kadafur, who represented the Governor.

The event brought together members of the Governor's media

team, officials of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), and senior government officials.

The Senior Technical Assistant for Print and Digital Communication, Abdurrahman Bundi explained that the publication was the outcome of a year-long process of collation and editing.

"Each month, the team compiles the activities of the Governor, Deputy Governor, and First Lady. At the end

of the year, we conduct an intensive two-week editorial session to finalise the edition," Bundi said.

He added that the book comprises field reviews, selected photos, editorials, speeches, and media reports, serving both as an archival record and a research tool.

"It is designed to provide evidence-based documentation of the administration's work," Bundi noted.

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

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



GRANTS

There are available grants from National Governments, multinational corporations and NGOS.

The leadership of DSSAA is committed to pursuing these grants at the African Union Secretariat, Ecowas NGO Roundtable and other multilateral Initiatives and making them available to Members only.

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