

Gombe Launches Marine Service, Supplies 700 Life Jackets For Boat Passengers

Governor Muhammadu Yahaya of Gombe State has set up a standing committee on the new national minimum wage. As part of efforts to ever marine tackle boat mishaps transport service and and loss of lives in provided life jackets for boat passengers. The inauguration took place in Kupto

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NPA Cautions 4 Terminal Operators Over Environmental Breaches At Apapa Port

The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has issued warnings to four terminal operators over environmental pollution within the facility. The port's Complex Manager, Mr Debo Lawal, made the disclosure in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos on Tuesday. Describing port management as a challenging yet

CONTINUES ON P2



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TRANSPORTATION

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E - NEWSPAPER

NIWA Bans Unlicensed Boat Operations To Improve Waterway Safety

The National Inland Waterways Authority has announced an immediate ban on all loading activities from unauthorised points

across the country to curb boat accidents and improve safety on Nigeria's inland

waterways. Speaking during a press briefing in Abuja on Tuesday, the Managing

Director of the National Inland Waterways Authority, Bola Oyebamiji, announced

the new directives, saying, "NIWA has placed an immediate

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NCAA Summons 13 Airlines Over Delays, Passenger Right Violations

P2

Motorists, Commuters Lament As Flood Overruns Lagos Road

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FRSC, KT-IRS To Establish Number Plate Manufacturing Plant

P3



Bola Oyebamiji, NIWA Managing Director

NUPENG Finally Suspends Strike As Dangote, Union Sign MoU

The Nigerian Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers has suspended its two-day strike following a meeting with the Dangote Group

on Tuesday. The National President of NUPENG, Williams Akporeha, confirmed this to our correspon-

dent. According to him, the Dangote refinery team led by Sayyu Dantata, agreed to unionise its drivers.

He said the meeting was summoned by the Department of State Services.

"We have suspended the strike. The Dangote refinery

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OPEC's Oversupply To Push Oil Below \$60

P5

Local Transport News

NCAA Summons 13 Airlines Over Delays, Passenger Right Violations

Culled

The Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) has summoned 13 domestic airlines to an emergency meeting in Abuja following widespread complaints of flight delays, cancellations, and passenger maltreatment across the country.

The meeting, scheduled for Wednesday at the NCAA headquarters, was confirmed by the agency's Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, Michael Achimugu, through a statement posted on his official X handle on Tuesday.

According to Achimugu, the agenda will cover persistent delays and cancellations, inadequate passenger handling and welfare provisions, unresolved refund complaints, enforcement of safety directives such as the mandatory phone switch-off during flights, protection of airline staff and NCAA officials from passenger aggression, as well as the planned introduction of RFID baggage tagging

and real-time flight monitoring technology.

The summons comes amid rising incidents of unruly passenger behaviour at airports, which the NCAA says are partly triggered by airlines' failure to comply with aviation rules.

"Airlines cancel flights late at night without making provisions for passenger welfare, leaving NCAA consumer protection officers to manage agitated travellers.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Najomo

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According to him, the Dangote refinery team led by Sayyu Dantata, agreed to unionise its drivers.

He said the meeting was summoned by the Department of State Services.

"We have suspended the strike. The Dangote refinery has agreed to unionise its drivers. We signed an agreement," Akporeha said in a telephone conversation.

PUNCH Online had reported that petroleum tanker drivers on Monday made good their threat to shun fuel loading due to the crisis between them and the Dangote refinery as a result of the unionisation of tanker drivers.

This was despite an appeal by the Federal Government that they shelve the

plan.

In some parts of the country, filling stations were also closed by NUPENG members. The Aradel refinery in Obele, Port Harcourt, was shut. The Kwale Hydrocarbon facility in Delta State was shut.

NUPENG had on Friday declared its intention to stop loading fuel this week over allegations that the Dangote refinery planned to ban the drivers recruited for its 4,000 trucks from joining the union.

NUPENG President, Williams Akporeha, on Sunday confirmed that the Federal Government had reached out to the union on the need to avert the strike. He, however, insisted that the industrial action would go ahead.

As of Monday morning, PUNCH Online gathered that there was full compliance with the directive that no driver should lift fuel. Checks by one of our correspondents confirmed that activities at petroleum depots were paralysed across the country.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

NPA Cautions 4 Terminals Operators Over Environmental Breaches At Apapa Port

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The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has issued warnings to four terminal operators over environmental pollution within the facility.

The port's Complex Manager, Mr Debo Lawal, made the disclosure in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos on Tuesday.

Describing port management as a challenging yet rewarding responsibility, he highlighted the daily operational, environmental, and security demands that required readiness and solution-oriented approaches.

He explained that managing the port involved addressing a wide range of operational, emotional, and organisational issues, emphasising that no challenge was insurmountable with proper preparation and solutions.

In line with efforts to promote environmental sustainability, Lawal disclosed that four terminals had recently received warning letters for breaching their lease agreements and contributing to pollution within the Apapa Port



Nigerian Ports authority

Complex.

"For example, a factory polluting a neighbouring terminal, which management is resolving by directing the factory to adjust its funnel to reduce harmful emissions.

"Physical inspections are conducted to verify environmental complaints, as NPA emphasises the need for clean terminals and strict compliance with

environmental regulations," Lawal said.

He confirmed that sanctions existed for environmental breaches but said that initial engagement took priority, with specific directives given and deadlines set before penalties were imposed.

According to him, instructions include readjusting factory funnels and installing combustion controls, aligning with international best practices among others.

On security, Lawal stated that collaboration existed between the security department and port police, maintaining constant patrols within the port system and waterways.

He added that management recently provided additional water vehicles to the marine police, strengthening security operations ahead of the busy September–December season.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Local Transport News**FRSC, KT-IRS To Establish Number Plate Manufacturing Plant****Culled**

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) in partnership with the Katsina State Internal Revenue Service (KT-IRS) has concluded plans to establish a mini-number plate manufacturing plant in Katsina State.

The FRSC Deputy Corps Marshal in charge of Motor Vehicle Administration, Aliyu Datsama, revealed this to journalists shortly after inspecting the proposed site for the plant at the KT-IRS premises on Monday.

He said accommodation facilities had been provided by the state internal revenue service for the effective and immediate take-off of the mini manufacturing plant in the state.

Datsama, who expressed satisfaction with the facilities, noted that the mulled establishment of the number plate production plant was sequel to the request made by the Executive Chairman of the KT-IRS, Muhammad Isyaku.

"We received a request from the Executive Chairman of Katsina State

Internal Revenue Service that he wants us to establish a mini plant here for the production of plate numbers.

"So, my boss asked me to come and do a site analysis to see what they have and the possibility of establishing the mini plant. We have seen what they have, and we are satisfied," he said.

Earlier, the Executive Chairman of KT-IRS, Muhammad Isyaku, said he applied for the establishment of the mini manufacturing plant due to the growing demands for number plates in the state.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



FRSC, KT-IRS

Sokoto Okays Budget Adju'ment, Approves Major Road Repairs To Ease Flooding**Culled**

The Sokoto State Executive Council has approved a technical amendment to the 2025 budget, redirecting over N38.8 billion to priority projects without increasing the total budget size.

The move, announced on Tuesday, is designed to improve budget performance, address urgent needs, and ensure that funds no longer sit idle while critical sectors face funding gaps.

Speaking after the council meeting, Commissioner for Budget and Economic Development, Dr. Abubakar Zayanna, said the adjustment would "make the budget more realistic, intentional, and fully aligned with public financial management standards."

"The ₦526.88 billion budget size remains the same," Zayanna explained. "We simply moved funds from dormant or underperforming

areas to those with better revenue performance. This reallocation should help us achieve 70–80 percent budget performance by year-end."

He emphasized that the adjustment ensures every naira will work for the state in the months ahead, avoiding situations where vital projects stall while less urgent allocations remain untouched.

In a related decision, the council also approved the rehabilitation of flood-damaged sections of Ali-Akilu Road and Abdullahi Fodio Road to improve drainage and ease the free flow of water in affected communities.

"These interventions will bring much-needed relief to residents and help prevent further environmental and infrastructural damage caused by heavy rains," the council stated.

The amended budget proposal will now be forwarded to the Sokoto State House of Assembly for legislative approval before it becomes law.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Gombe Launches Marine Service, Supplies 700 Life Jackets For Boat Passengers**Culled**

Governor Muhammadu Yahaya of Gombe State has set up a standing committee on the new national minimum wage

As part of efforts to tackle boat mishaps and loss of lives in rivers, the Gombe State government has inaugurated its first-ever marine transport service and provided life jackets for boat passengers.

The inauguration took place in Kupto village, Funakaye Local Government Area of the state, along the Upper River Gongola.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony, the state commissioner for works, housing and transportation, Usman Maijama'a Kallamu, urged passengers and boat operators to prioritise safety and adhere strictly to all operational guidelines.

He warned against boarding boats without life jackets and advised operators to avoid night journeys, citing safety concerns.

Kallamu reiterated the Governor Inuwa Yahaya administration's commitment to



Governor Inuwa Yahaya

harnessing all available modes of transportation for the benefit of citizens, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

"His Excellency, Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya has assured that more boats would be provided to Kupto and other riverbank communities to further enhance safe water travel across the state", he said.

In a goodwill message, Dr. Ibrahim Baba

Ibrahim, the State Coordinator of N-HYPPADEC, represented by Abdullahi Muhammad, stated that the commission had also supplied over 700 life jackets to the state, underscoring its commitment to ensuring passenger safety on the waterways.

Also speaking, Nana Asma'u Jika, Manager of the Nigeria Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) Gombe-Yola Area Office, represented by Dahiru

Inuwa, provided safety tips and demonstrated the correct use of life jackets.

She emphasised that, in the event of a boat mishap, life jackets could keep passengers afloat for up to six hours while awaiting rescue.

The deputy chairman of Funakaye LGA, who represented the chairman, Shuaibu Abdulrahman, expressed appreciation to the state government and its partners for making water transportation safer and more accessible.

They pledged to ensure proper use and maintenance of the boat and affirmed their commitment to promoting safety on the waterways.

Our correspondent reports that the state government provided the newly introduced modern boat in partnership with National Hydroelectric Power Producing Areas Development Commission (N-HYPPADEC) with a view to easing transportation challenges for riverine communities in the area.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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Local Transport News

Tanker Drivers' Strike Will Not Cause Fuel Shortage - Dangote Refinery

Culled

A spokesman for Nigeria's Dangote refinery said Tuesday that the country would not see a petrol shortage despite an ongoing strike by a union representing fuel tanker drivers.

The strike, which began Monday and has since drawn support from other unions in Nigeria and abroad, comes as the refinery, the largest in Africa, is hiring its own drivers to deliver gasoline to retailers. "There is no fuel shortage, everything is going on," a refinery spokesman, Anthony Chiejina, told AFP, adding that talks were continuing between the union, the government, and the company.

Before last year's opening of the Dangote refinery, with a capacity of 650,000 barrels per day, Nigeria had to import almost all its petrol despite being a major oil producer.

Critics pointed to years of neglect and mismanagement of government-owned refineries.

The Dangote refinery has driven down prices of petrol for consumers while also shaking up long-entrenched players in

Nigeria's oil sector, marred by decades of corruption.

But it has also sparked monopoly fears as it becomes a powerful player backed by Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote.

Last month, the refinery was set to deploy a fleet of thousands of trucks powered by compressed natural gas to distribute its petrol nationwide, an initiative that has been delayed due to logistics issues.

But the plans have roiled a market where more than 20,000 diesel-powered tankers have operated for decades.

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Bakori

Culled

Oil prices could fall below \$60 per barrel by the end of the year as OPEC+ continues to unwind production, analysts say after the group began rolling back the last layer of output cuts.

On Sunday, the eight OPEC+ producers – Saudi Arabia, Russia, Iraq, UAE, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, Algeria, and Oman – tapped the 1.65 million barrels per day (bpd) cuts announced in April 2023. The producers will return 137,000 bpd of these cuts to the market in October, "in view of a steady global economic outlook and current healthy market fundamentals, as reflected in the low oil inventories," OPEC said this weekend.

Despite the small rollback, analysts expect an oversupply later this year and early next year, which is set to weigh on oil prices.

"I would say below \$60 in the first quarter of next year is possible, mid-\$50s is definitely possible, and then that will have a big impact on the US shale production.

"We have not seen the real impact of this unwinding as yet," chairman emeritus at FGE NexantECA, Fereidun Fesharaki,

OPEC's Oversupply To Push Oil Below \$60

told Bloomberg Television yesterday.

Next year, supply growth is set to be lower due to the lower oil prices, but a decline in production would lay the foundations of a renewed boost to prices later in 2026, according to Fesharaki. Early yesterday in Asian trading, oil prices rose by 1.6 per cent as the market was expecting a larger production hike from OPEC+.

If prices don't drop too much, the group could be emboldened to accelerate the unwinding of the cuts, as it did earlier this year with the 2.2-million-bpd cuts, Fesharaki said.

"Until you actually see inventories building up, then there will be no impact on the prices," the oil market expert told Bloomberg.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Motorists, Commuters Lament As Flood Overruns Lagos Road



The flooded area

Motorists and commuters were stranded along the Ikorodu Road area of Lagos State after a downpour on Monday caused heavy flooding along the axis.

The road users were also stuck in a gridlock from Anthony towards the Odo-Iyalaro Bridge stretch of the road.

PUNCH Online observed that the flood covered some sections of the road, causing some motorists to park their vehicles while they waited for it to recede.

Many commuters were also seen trekking long distances as traffic, at some point, came to a halt.

Flooding occasioned by rainfall has become

a recurring problem in the state. The problem has been attributed to poor drainage channels across the city.

One of the affected motorists, who identified herself simply as Edith, also blamed the incident on poor drainage.

According to her, the problem worsened after the recent road construction on some parts of the road.

She said, "The water could not flow through the drainage, and as a result of this, the road became flooded.

"People even had to leave their cars because the flood was too much.

"It was almost as if the cars were about to be submerged as they drove through the water.

"Some bus conductors were also seen resorting to self-help in order to find their way out of the flood, but the whole situation later resulted in commotion."

Another commuter who also identified himself simply as Samuel said he was forced to alight from a

bus he boarded and had to walk when it became obvious that the gridlock would not ease soon.

He said, "The bus conductor told us to alight because there was no movement.

"We had to trek since the bus was not going anywhere.

"LASTMA officers were also confused about what to do and even tried to work with the conductors to allow the water to flow."

A student, Oluwatobi Salami, who was also caught up in the situation, told our correspondent that the situation affected her journey back from work.

She lamented, "Due to the traffic, there were no buses at all. I had to trek because the standstill was serious."

As of press time, traffic was still building up along the stretch of the road.

The Director of Public Affairs, Ministry of Environment and Water Resources, Kunle Adesina, did not respond to calls made to his

telephone line on Monday.

A text message sent to him had yet to be replied to as of the time this report was filed.

In June, parts of the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway, Agege, and Marina were also submerged after a similar downpour, causing traffic chaos and raising concerns about the state government's flood control measures.

It was a grim scene on Tuesday, August 5, as residents of several communities in the Ijede area of Ikorodu, Lagos State, grappled with the aftermath of flash floods that left destruction worth millions of naira in their wake.

PUNCH Online reports that the affected communities include Oko Ope, Anjorin, Abule Eko, and Odotedo.

Videos of the flooded areas, which surfaced online on Monday, drew widespread concern, with residents seen pleading for assistance as rising waters submerged their homes and streets.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



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- Never smoke or have any source of fire in the vicinity
- Wear a respirator or paint mask
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QUALITY EMULSION

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NIWA Bans Unlicensed Boat Operations To Improve Waterway Safety

Culled

The National Inland Waterways Authority has announced an immediate ban on all loading activities from unauthorised points across the country to curb boat accidents and improve safety on Nigeria's inland waterways.

Speaking during a press briefing in Abuja on Tuesday, the Managing Director of the National Inland Waterways Authority, Bola Oyebamiji, announced the new directives, saying, "NIWA has placed an immediate ban on loading activities from all unauthorised loading points across the country. No commercial passenger boat shall be allowed to load from any point other than those recognised and registered by NIWA.

"It is mandatory for all commercial boat operators to provide and enforce the use of lifejackets on the boats always. Every commercial passenger boat must properly display its Boat Name Letters and Load line."



Oyebamiji

He also gave the operating any boats or Niger River capsized directive that "all watercraft on the near Sokun Village in unlicensed boats and waterways. Lapai LGA (Niger State)

watercraft be removed Several deadly inland due to a sudden storm. The most recent accident occurred in

from the waterways." waterway accidents Local media reported carrying mourners to a condolence visit Adding that, "All have occurred in the that "an unspecified capsized near Gausawa in Borgu LGA on unlicensed boat past six months. For number of traders" the Kainji Reservoir's Malale River. More than 27 people were reported to have been drivers and operators example, in April, a boat drowned when the confirmed dead.

down in strong winds. No definitive casualty count was released for that accident, but it underscored the danger of river travel during seasonal squalls.

Another occurred in July, in Niger State. A passenger boat laden with rice, livestock, and about 40 people collided with a submerged log and capsized on the Shiroro River (near Zumba market in Shiroro LGA). Rescue teams later recovered 15 bodies and identified three more people still missing; 26 passengers wearing life jackets were rescued.

In Sokoto State, two deadly accidents occurred in mid-August 2025. A heavily loaded boat ferrying women, children, and motorcycles to the Goronyo market capsized.

The most recent accident occurred in September in Niger State. A wooden boat carrying mourners to a condolence visit capsized near Gausawa in Borgu LGA on the Kainji Reservoir's Malale River. More than 27 people were reported to have been confirmed dead.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Compensation Row May Stall N712bn Lagos Airport Revamp



Keyamo

The Federal Government's ambitious plan to rehabilitate the Murtala Muhammed Airport, Lagos, at a cost of N712bn, is facing a potential legal quagmire. Fresh findings indicate that disputes over compensation for private jet hangar owners may disrupt the project's progress, raising fears of costly lawsuits and prolonged delays.

Investigations reveal that at least three major hangar facilities might be directly affected by the planned expansion. Among them are the Dominion Hangar, owned by Bishop David Oyedepo's Living Faith Church Worldwide; the EAN Hangar, home to several private jet operators; and Caverton's hangar. These

facilities sit on land marked for apron expansion—an integral part of the rehabilitation blueprint.

In aviation, a hangar is a large, enclosed building designed primarily to store, maintain, and repair aircraft. These structures have wide openings and large doors to allow planes to move in and out, and they provide a protected environment from weather elements.

Industry insiders say operators are bracing for legal battles if the government fails to pay adequate compensation for the demolition and relocation of their multi-billion-naira facilities.

One aviation source familiar with the development disclosed that affected operators had already submitted valuation documents and proposed compensation figures to the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria. However, FAAN reportedly considers the sums "enormous" and may struggle to raise the funds.

"Building just one hangar costs

billions of naira. If FAAN or the ministry refuses to meet these demands, the matter will certainly end up in court," the source, an official of the Federal Ministry of Aviation, spoke in confidence due to the lack of authorisation to speak on the matter.

The Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, has championed the massive rehabilitation project to be executed by Chinese construction giant CCECC. The works will cover a complete overhaul of the old terminal, apron expansion, redesigned access roads, and major infrastructure upgrades.

Keyamo described the project as the first comprehensive renovation of the terminal since its construction decades ago. According to him, the redesign will correct long-standing flaws, including the absence of direct access to the departure floor at Terminal 2.

"We are constructing two new ring

roads—one for arrivals, one for departures—and a bridge that will take travellers directly to the upper departure lounge," Keyamo explained. "This will eliminate the design error of passengers lifting luggage up escalators."

But while the minister has highlighted the scope of work, his breakdown of the N712bn budget did not include compensation for hangar owners—a glaring omission that industry stakeholders say could derail the entire exercise.

Our correspondent gathered that FAAN has informed affected operators of their relocation to a new section of the airport. However, no official communication has been made on the size or timing of compensation packages. This uncertainty has heightened tensions and deepened mistrust.

A worker at EAN Hangar, who requested anonymity, confirmed that the operators are carefully monitoring developments.

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Hungary Airlines Debuts Service To Mainland China

Culled
Hungary Airlines (2G, Budapest) launched a new service between Budapest and Zhengzhou on September 4, marking the airline's entry into the mainland Chinese market. Flightradar24 ADS-B data indicates that the China-bound leg is operated non-stop, while the return service to Hungary includes a stopover at Almaty International.

According to the official news site China.com.cn, the airline will operate 5x weekly rotations on the route, mainly transporting e-commerce products.

The development aligns with the company's strategy to grow its presence in China with the addition of new aircraft, and complement its Hong Kong International service with additional routes. Chief operating officer Gabor Talabos recently said that Hungary



Airlines was also considering launching a route between Budapest and Hangzhou. ch-aviation reached out to Hungary Airlines for comment, but it was not

immediately available. The airline's fleet currently comprises a sole 2014-vintage A330-200F (HA-LHU, msn 1578). The company also plans to add two B777-

300(ERSF)s under an ACMI contract with Air Atlanta Europe. The B777Fs will reportedly be deployed on the route to Zhengzhou. Hungary Airlines (2G,

Budapest) launched a new service between Budapest and Zhengzhou on September 4, marking the airline's entry into the mainland Chinese

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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

WC Qualifier: Nigeria's Hope Hang After 1-1 Draw With South Africa

Culled: Nigeria's Super Eagles were held to a 1-1 draw by South Africa's Bafana Bafana at the Free State Stadium in Bloemfontein on Tuesday, leaving both sides with a point in their World Cup qualifying group.

The match began with South Africa pressing aggressively, trying to capitalise on home advantage.

Nigeria had their first corner in the 10th minute after Ademola Lookman delivered a precise cross from the right, but goalkeeper Foster cleared the danger with a header.

The visitors fell behind in the 25th minute when South Africa forced an own goal from Nigeria's captain, Troost-Ekong, giving the Bafana Bafana the lead.

Nigeria, however, fought back and were rewarded shortly before half-time, as Basse powered a controversial header into the net to level the score at 1-1.

At half-time, Nigeria made two changes to boost their attacking options. Arokodare replaced Dessers, and Onyemaechi came on for Troost-Ekong. Arokodare immediately looked lively, making a brilliant run down the left wing, cutting inside, and shooting narrowly wide.

Dele-Bashiru also tested the South



Nigeria vs South Africa

African defence from the edge of the box, but his effort was well blocked.

Nigeria gradually took better control of the match in the second half, despite South Africa showing resilience.

The hosts made their first substitution around the hour mark, with Monyane coming on for the injured Mduyaelma.

Later, Ndidi was substituted off due to injury, replaced by Uche, while Chukwueze also came on for Simon as Nigeria

completed their five substitutions.

South Africa made further changes, bringing on Mbatha for Mbule and Sebelebele for Appollis, aiming to manage the closing stages of the game.

The visitors had a late chance to take the lead when Uche fired a low shot from the right side, but it rolled wide.

Qualification Possibilities The 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifiers in Africa are being played under a new format,

with nine group winners automatically qualifying for the tournament, while the four best second-placed teams enter a play-off for one intercontinental ticket.

Nigeria, who are chasing their seventh World Cup appearance, now sit just behind group leaders, with Benin Republic and Rwanda also in strong contention.

Both Benin Republic and Rwanda are on 11 points, with Benin Republic having an outstanding match to play.

Find Full Story In The Link

Nigeria Ranks 2nd In Child Climate Related Risks - UNICEF

Culled: The United Nations Children's fund, UNICEF, said Nigeria ranks second globally in child climate-related risks, with millions of children affected annually by floods, droughts, and extreme heat.

UNICEF's Representative in Nigeria, Wafaa Saeed stated this at the British High Commission in Abuja.

She said investing in climate-smart infrastructure is not only protecting services but also empowering communities to safeguard their children's future.

Saeed said, The United Kingdom Government has announced a £19 million funding package to boost climate-resilient health and education services in Northern Nigeria, with Kano and Jigawa States as pilot locations.

Cynthia Rowe, Development Director, Nigeria, said the investment is a model for future replication nationwide.

According to her" the initiative targets 84 newly improved facilities 39 primary healthcare centres and 45 schools upgraded to withstand the growing threats of climate change"

"CRIBS seeks to safeguard essential services in vulnerable communities through climate adaptation measures, ensuring schools and healthcare centres remain operational even in severe weather conditions".

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Find Full Story In The Link

Nigeria's Debt-To-GDP Ratio Is Now At 38.8% - Edun



Edun

Culled: Nigeria's Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Wale Edun, has disclosed that the country's debt-to-Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio now stands at 38.8 per cent, well below the global benchmark of

about 60 per cent.

Speaking at the 11th Annual Conference and General Assembly of the West Africa Association of Public Accounts Committees (WAAPAC) in Abuja, Edun said Nigeria's total public debt reached ₦149.39 trillion (about \$97 billion) by

the end of the first quarter of 2025, with domestic borrowings accounting for 53 per cent and external debt 47 per cent.

He noted that government revenue grew by 34.7 per cent in the first half of 2025 compared with the same period last year, expanding fiscal space for investments in priority sectors.

Edun said reforms under President Bola Tinubu's administration — including fuel subsidy removal, exchange rate liberalisation, and a comprehensive tax overhaul — were yielding results, improving debt sustainability, stabilising the naira, reducing debt service costs, and boosting investor confidence.

"Nigeria is turning the corner. The reforms are delivering

measurable impact in terms of investor confidence, reduced spending on fuel imports, greater energy self-sufficiency, and value addition in our economy," Edun said.

He stressed that future borrowing would be tied to viable projects, while transparency, debt accountability, and prudent budgeting remain central to government policy.

He urged lawmakers to strengthen parliamentary oversight, which he described as vital to fiscal discipline.

Senate President Godswill Akpabio, represented by Senator Osita Izunaso, warned that unchecked debt could "mortgage the future of citizens" and undermine democracy.

Find Full Story In The Link



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Galaxy Backbone

Nigeria Rolls Out Paperless Governance With 1Government Cloud

Culled: The Federal Government has commenced the nationwide rollout of its paperless governance programme, marking a significant milestone in Nigeria's digital transformation agenda. The initiative is being implemented through the 1Government Cloud platform, developed by Galaxy Backbone Limited (GBB), and is now operational across selected Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs). The pilot phase includes major institutions such as the Ministry of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy; Ministry of Solid

Minerals; Ministry of Steel Development; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Federal Ministry of Justice; Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria; and the Federal Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs. These agencies are the first to adopt the system, which is designed to streamline public service operations within a secure and sovereign digital environment. Built to replace traditional file-based workflows, the 1Government Cloud is expected to reduce bureaucratic delays, lower costs associated with printing and storage, and enhance transparency in governance. It also

integrates encrypted storage and communication features, enabling faster decision-making and strengthening the security of government records. The platform includes a suite of sovereign digital tools tailored to Nigeria's public sector needs. These include GovDrive for secure file management, GovMail for official correspondence, GovE-Sign for legally binding electronic approvals, and GovConference for encrypted meetings. Additional features such as GovAsset Management and GovCollaboration provide further support for accountability and

teamwork across government institutions. The adoption of the 1Government Cloud aligns with the directive of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation, which mandates the transition to a fully paperless civil service by December 2025. To achieve this, a phased strategy is underway, focusing on infrastructure readiness and staff training across government agencies. By embedding digital tools into its core administrative processes, Nigeria is laying the groundwork for a smarter, more responsive government.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigerian Government Launches N'nal Re-orientation Campaign

The Nigerian government has restated its commitment to transparency, accountability, and national renewal with the launch of a re-orientation campaign to promote honesty, patriotism, and civic responsibility. The Minister of Information and National Orientation, Mohammed Idris, made this known at the 60th anniversary conference of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) held in Minna, Niger State.

He was represented by the Director-General of the Voice of Nigeria (VON), Mallon Jibrin Baba Ndace. Idris said the conference theme — “Socio-Economic Potentials, Accountability and National Re-Orientation: Unlocking Nigeria's Future” — reflects the Federal Government's reform agenda. He explained that the forthcoming National Values Charter and Re-orientation Campaign, to be launched

by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, will strengthen the fight against corruption by reshaping public attitudes. The Minister also highlighted government initiatives such as the Student Loan Scheme, broadband expansion, digital identity systems, and key infrastructure projects including the Lagos–Calabar Coastal Highway and the Sokoto–Badagry Super Highway, which passes through Niger State. He further noted the

President's approval of ₦16.7 billion for the reconstruction of the Mokwa Bridge as evidence of the administration's commitment to citizens' welfare. On agriculture, Idris described Niger State as a strategic hub for food security and welcomed the suspension of raw shea exports. He said the policy would boost local processing, create jobs, and position Nigeria as a global leader in shea production.

[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.

CAPACITY DEV.

Membership gives you access to our robust learning portal where you get latest Road Safety Research, scholarship opportunities and internships. Admission to ADPRIP is at a discounted rate. Our interfaces with Government authorities gives you Industry advantages.

NETWORKING

Your participation in our community platforms opens up new business relationship opportunities with operators, Regulators, Vendors, Researchers and Investors across the globe as membership is open worldwide.

GOOD BUSINESS

PROFILE/LEVERAGE

You are entitled to use DSSAA Member logo on your website, office branding, Letterhead and Business Cards.

Our community development projects such as the Safe School Volunteer Project as well as our Road Safety advocacy activities creates a positive brand footprint for all our Members and Affiliates. Membership of DSSAA elevates your Corporate ethical persona.

OTHER BENEFITS

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DSSAA will promote your business from time to time on our growing social media handles.

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Your Road Safety organization or Driving School qualifies as a Job Fair Agent. You earn money from this.

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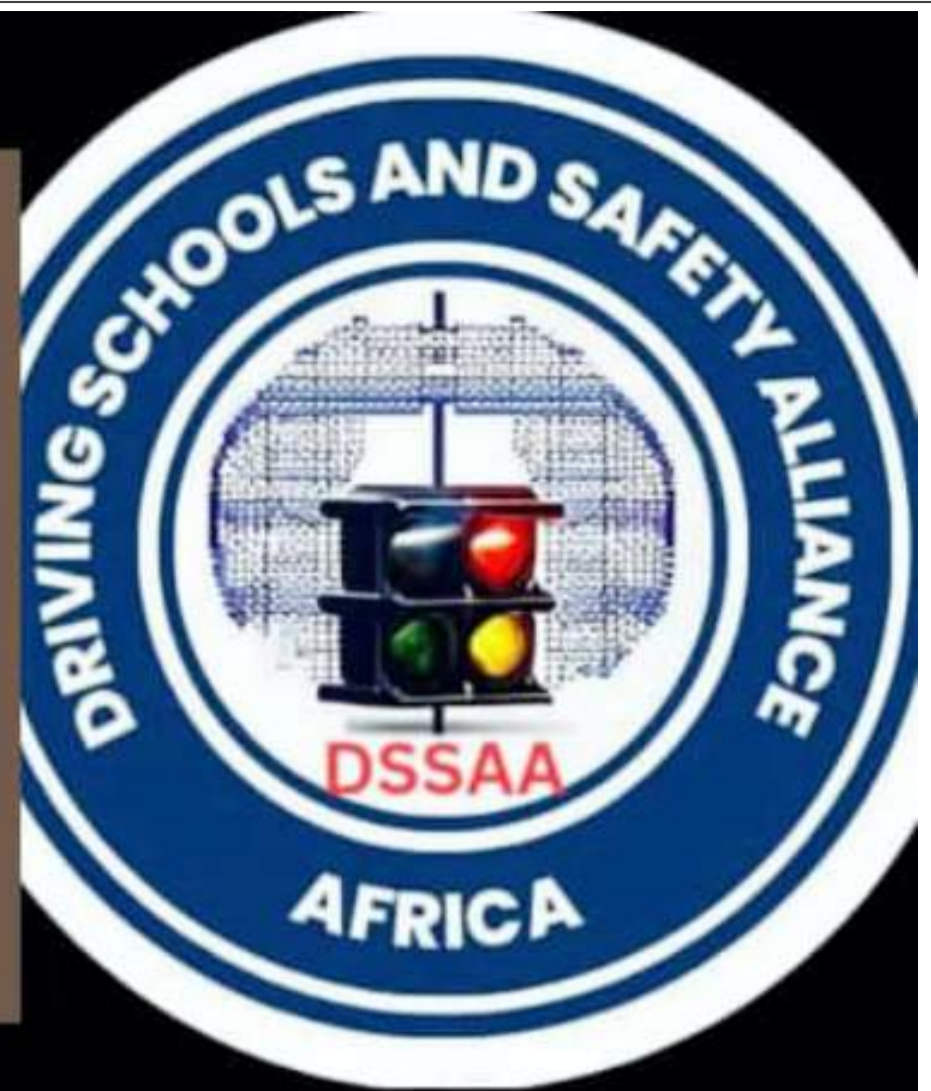


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