

NNPC Profit Plunges To N216bn In Sept, Down 71% In 6 Months

The Nigerian National Profit After Tax (PAT) indicated a Petroleum Company falling to N216 billion in staggering 71 (NNPC) Limited has September 2025, the percent decline from reported a drastic company revealed in a the N748 billion collapse in its report. recorded just six profitability, with its This development months earlier in

CONTINUES ON P7

FG Partners Launch Green Transport Initiative To Empower Youth

The Federal Government, through the Federal Ministry of Youth Development, has launched a landmark green

transport initiative in of Nigeria partnership with the (NATOMORAS) and National Commercial House of Destiny Tricycle and Global Services Motorcycle Owners Limited. This initiative and Riders Association aims to empower

CONTINUES ON P7

GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION

REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

thelandmarkinfo.com.ng | Global Transportation E- Reports | Global_GTE Wed, October 22nd 2025 E - NEWSPAPER

Ember Months: LASDRI Partners AMATO, Truck Unions To Advocate Safer Driving Culture

The Lagos State Drivers Institute, LASDRI has continued its 'Ember Months' road safety campaigns kick-started some few weeks back

with a bumper road safety programme organised for members of the Association of

Maritime Truck Owners, AMATO and the Association of Maritime Reefers Truck Owners,

AMRTO on Wednesday 22, October, at Lillypond Container Terminal, Ijora, Apapa.

The truck drivers and owners who turned out in their large numbers

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FG Begins Procurement For Port Modernisation Outside Lagos

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FG Inaugurates Development Phase For Gateway Inland Dry Port Zamfara

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FRSC Records 6% Reduction In Road Crash

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LASDRI GM, Mrs. afusat Tiamiyu with other stakeholders at the Ember Months Safety Campaign

FAAN Targets Integrated ISO Policy, Targets December Certification

The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria has December 2025 to achieve full International Organisation for Standardisation.

The is contained in a Lagos. Tuesday statement by the authority's Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, Mr Henry Agbebire in

The Managing Director of FAAN, Mrs Olubunmi Kuku, made this known at the unveiling of its

ISO Policy aimed at institutionalising a culture of service quality, operational safety, and sustainable practice across all FAAN

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Abuja To Host First Ever International Airshow

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Local Transport News

Zamfara FRSC Records 6% Reduction In Road Crash

Culled

The Zamfara Command of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) has announced a six per cent reduction in road accidents compared to 2024 in the state.

This was disclosed to newsmen in Gusau, the state capital, by the Sector Commander, Aliyu Ma'aji, during a press briefing to flag off the 2025 Ember Months Campaign in the state. The Sector Commander explained that in 2025, the Corps recorded 46 road crashes compared to 56 accidents recorded in 2024, which he said accounts for a decrease of 6.27 per cent.

According to Ma'aji, in 2024, road crashes claimed the lives of 51 persons and injured 259 others, noting that the mixed loading of goods, animals, and passengers in trucks largely caused the casualties.

The Sector Commander noted that the theme of this year's campaign, "Take Responsibility for Your Safety:

Stop Distracted Driving," reinforces the view that human factors are the major causes of road crashes.

He lamented that drivers were largely responsible for most crashes on the highways, saying that records showed the major causes included driver fatigue, overloading of passengers, conveyance of passengers in haulage vehicles, and travelling with fuel in plastic containers.

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accident

FAAN Targets Integrated ISO Policy, Targets December Certification

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The Managing Director of FAAN, Mrs Olubunmi Kuku, made this known at the unveiling of its ISO Policy aimed at institutionalising a culture of service quality, operational safety, and sustainable practice across all FAAN managed airports.

Kuku was represented by the FAAN Director of Human Resources and Administration, Dr Luqman Emiola.

The new policy, she said, integrates two standards, ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) and ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management System (EMS), into a single framework.

"FAAN has achieved about 70 per cent completion of the certification process,

with external auditors scheduled to arrive in November to assess compliance and close identified gaps.

"We are targeting full ISO certification by December 2025.

"The ISO policy reinforces the operational principle that, if it is not documented, it is considered not done," she said.

She noted that the policy provided FAAN with a working document to guide internal audits across directorates.

Kuku said that it would ensure that every action reflected it's commitment to service quality, safety, environmental stewardship, and operational excellence.

She reiterated the authority's dedication to managing Nigeria's airports in line with international best practices, ensuring safe, secure, efficient, and environmentally responsible operations.

The authority also reaffirmed its commitment to protecting the environment, supporting host communities, and providing a conducive workplace for staff.

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Ember Months: LASDRI Partners AMATO, Truck Unions To Advocate Safer Driving Culture

Culled

The Lagos State Drivers Institute, LASDRI has continued its 'Ember Months' road safety campaigns kick-started some few weeks back with a bumper road safety programme organised for members of the Association of Maritime Truck Owners, AMATO and the Association of Maritime Reefers Truck Owners, AMRTO on Wednesday 22, October, at Lillypond Container Terminal, Ijora, Apapa.

The truck drivers and owners who turned out in their large numbers were freshly enlightened about the critical need to be safety conscious, especially in the 'ember months' preceding the Yuletide season with its attendant social and economic frenzy, which give rise to reckless driving from impatient drivers with insatiable desires to make much gains transporting goods and commuters.

Mrs. Afusat Tihamiyu, the General Manager of LASDRI in her lecture to the drivers, demystified the 'ember months' mystery, saying there is no difference



Drivers Education Campaign

between the months of the year other than the change in attitudinal perceptions, making people to attach special myths to the ember-months which is not so nor true.

She therefore admonished the drivers to be patient whenever they are behind the wheel regardless of the month, either in January or December, asking them to be more of defensive drivers

than abusive ones, saying, "avoid anything that could lead to road rage. You cannot use Lagos road, Ibadan road or Akure road and carry the road to your house, you have to leave the road for million of others to make use of, neither should you die on it"

The General Manager noted that there are three 'Cs' that undergirds driving, with the first 'C' connoting caution,

requiring drivers to be conscious of other road users, taking caution to obey every traffic law and regulations put in place to enhance smooth motoring and eliminate road crashes.

The second 'C', according to her, speaks about concentration, stressing that many while driving simultaneously do other things, making phone calls, typing messages or watching videos on their

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FG Inaugurates Development Phase For Gateway Inland Dry Port

Culled

The Federal Government has formalized the development phase for the Gateway Inland Dry Port (IDP) at Papalanto, Ogun State, by inaugurating a Project Development Committee (PDC).

Minister of Marine and Blue Economy Adegboyega Oyetola said this action decisively underscores the Federal Government's unwavering commitment to reforming and maximizing the potential within the nation's maritime and logistics sector.

During the inauguration ceremony, the Minister who was represented by the Director of the Federal Department of Fishery and Aquaculture, Wellington Omoragbon, articulated that the PDC's establishment is a concrete affirmation of the government's strategic direction toward sustainable national economic growth facilitated by the Blue Economy. The committee membership reflects a crucial multi-stakeholder approach, comprising representatives from the

Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy, (FMMBE) the Nigerian Shippers' Council (NSC), the Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission (ICRC), the Federal Ministry of Finance, the Ogun State Government, and the designated Concessionaire, Arise Group.

Oyetola specified the leadership structure as follows: The Permanent Secretary of the FMMBE, Olufemi Oloruntola, will serve as the Chairman, the Director of Maritime Services and

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Oyetola

AFD Lauds Lagos, LAMATA For Transport Projects

Culled

The Agence Française de Développement has commended the Lagos State Government and the Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority for their commitment to easing commuting in the state through the construction of two major transport interchanges at Marina and Mile 2.

The Director of the Africa Department of AFD, Sandra Kassab, gave the commendation after leading a delegation from the agency to inspect the ongoing projects alongside the Lagos State Commissioner for Transportation, Oluwaseun Osiyemi, and the Managing Director of LAMATA, Abimbola Akinajo.

Kassab expressed satisfaction with the progress recorded on both projects and praised the state government's sustained efforts to develop an integrated transport system.

She said, "We have the joy and the pride to work together with LAMATA for more than 10 years, supporting the development of an affordable, secure,

and reliable transportation system that is integrated. This visit is an opportunity to see concretely how service has been improved through infrastructure investment and to understand the challenge of interconnectivity between the rail, the BRT, and other systems."

She added that AFD remained committed to supporting Lagos in mobilising resources for the financing of sustainable transport infrastructure.

Speaking during the inspection, the Managing Director of LAMATA, Mrs. Abimbola Akinajo, disclosed that the two interchanges would be completed between the end of the first quarter and the middle of the second quarter of 2026. She noted that the Marina Interchange was being developed in line with the state's non-motorised transport policy, which promotes walking and cycling as part of the intermodal transport plan.

On his part, the Commissioner for Transportation, Osiyemi, said the projects align with the THEMES+ agenda of Governor Babajide Sanwo-

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Stop Airport Officials From Begging Travellers, Senator Tells Keyamo

Culled

A mild drama played out in Abuja on Monday when Senator Osita Izunaso (Imo West) called on the Minister of Aviation, Festus Keyamo, to caution officials of the Nigeria Customs Service, Nigeria Immigration Service, and other uniformed personnel at airports against begging air travellers for money.

The lawmaker described the conduct of some airport officials as a national embarrassment, saying it undermines Nigeria's image before visiting foreigners.

Izunaso made the remarks at an event themed "Responsible Communication: The Voice of the World," where Nigeria is preparing to host the 2026 World Public Relations Forum, attracting participants from 126 countries.

He said, "Honourable minister, a lot has been said about what you are doing at the airport. When you arrive at the airport now, you just carry your bag and you move in. Good work! That is fantastic.

"But you also have to look at the personnel including the customs, immigration and all the people that work



Keyamo

at the airports. You will always hear scream, 'Your boys are here, Sir!' or 'We are greeting you, Sir!' You know, this does not depict a very good image of our country.

"So, please tell them there will be no 'Your boys or girls are here!' We know they are doing their work. But there is a way they will be looking at you that will make you know they are actually looking for something more than that their work."

According to the senator, such unprofessional behaviour, including excessive greetings and subtle demands for "tips," gives foreigners a wrong impression about Nigeria.

He added, "For us in Nigeria, we know the meaning of 'Your boys are here.' Please tell them there will be no 'Your boys or girls are here!'. There is a way they will be looking at you that makes you know they are asking for something more

than their work.

"You may even hear them say 'Oga, you are welcome' three times in a row to be sure you are hearing them. So, these are some of the areas I would like you to look at because people are coming in from outside the country.

"Apart from that, I must pay a very special tribute to the Minister of Information and National Orientation. I love the concerns he has shown to the NIPR. Nobody has done that before."

However, the President of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations, Dr Ike Neliaku, quickly countered the senator's remarks, saying the aviation sector has undergone significant reforms in recent years.

"I want to confirm that I returned from South Africa and came back through the international airport. I want to confirm that there is a lot of improvement.

"Nobody said 'Your boys are here' to me. So, I think that Nigeria is changing," Neliaku stated, assuring foreign delegates that the country's image is improving.

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Local Transport News

FRSC To Clamp Down On Drivers Conveying Fuel In Vehicle

Culled
The Edo State Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Cyril Mathew, said the Corps will commence a clampdown on motorists conveying fuel in their vehicles.

Mathew disclosed this in Benin on Tuesday while addressing motorists during the ember months campaign in the state.

He said the clampdown became necessary following incessant incidents of vehicles being caught in flames during accidents as a result of fuel in their vehicles.

“It is very wrong for drivers to embark on a journey with a Jerry can containing fuel inside their vehicles,” the FRSC official said.

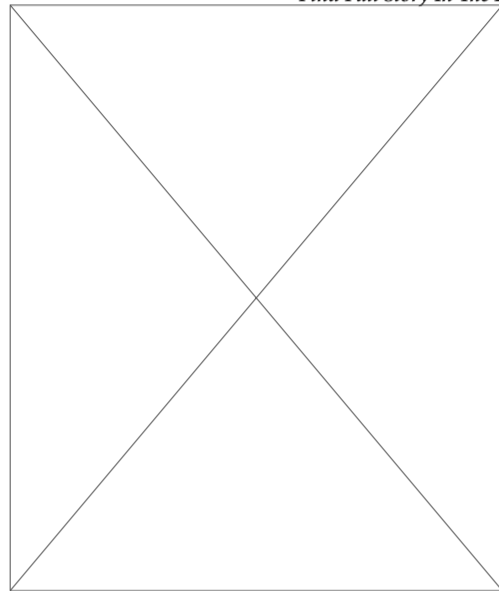
“So, we are going to arrest motorists who are travelling with Jerry cans of fuel in their vehicles,” he said. He disclosed that during the ember months, a Mobile Court would be set up to try traffic rule violators. Mathew disclosed this in Benin on Tuesday while addressing motorists

during the ember months campaign in the state.

He said the clampdown became necessary following incessant incidents of vehicles being caught in flames during accidents as a result of fuel in their vehicles.

“It is very wrong for drivers to embark on a journey with a Jerry can containing fuel inside their vehicles,” the FRSC official said.

“So, we are going to arrest motorists who are travelling with Jerry cans of fuel in



Governor Namadi flagging off a project

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Culled

As Nigeria marks 100 years of aviation, preparations are in top gear for the nation's first-ever International Airshow, slated to hold in Abuja from December 2 to 4, 2025.

The landmark event, organized by the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development, will celebrate a century of flight operations in the country while positioning Nigeria as a key player in the global aviation industry.

Leading preparations for the centenary celebration, the Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, SAN, on Tuesday paid a courtesy visit on the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory FCT, Nyesom Wike, to seek collaboration and logistical support for the show.

Keyamo said the Abuja International Airshow would be a landmark global event, featuring major players from across the aviation world and showcasing Nigeria's progress over the last century.

“From the first aircraft landing in Nigeria in 1925 till now, this year marks a century of aviation in our country.

Abuja To Host First Ever International Airshow

“As part of this centenary celebration, we are partnering with a private company and the Nigerian Air Force to deliver a world-class event that will attract global attention”, he stated.

The Minister explained that, just like the United Kingdom, France and the United Arab Emirates, Nigeria would now host an annual airshow to attract investors, promote tourism, and open new windows for trade and foreign investments.

He sought the FCT Administration's support in key areas such as transportation, security, sanitation, publicity and tourism promotion, stressing that Abuja, as the host city, would welcome high-profile guests and corporate delegations from around the world.

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FG Begins Procurement For Port Modernisation Outside Lagos



Oyetola

The Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, has disclosed that the Federal Government has commenced the procurement process for the modernisation of seaports outside Lagos as part of efforts to ensure balanced development across the nation's maritime gateways.

Oyetola stated this on Wednesday at the 2025 Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) Nigeria Conference, themed “Enhancing Logistics and Transport for a Sustainable Blue Economy in Nigeria,” held in Lagos.

Represented by the Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Dr. Abubakar Dantsoho, the Minister said the ongoing port

modernisation drive is aimed at upgrading infrastructure, improving cargo handling efficiency, and expanding capacity to meet global standards.

He said the Federal Government is working closely with stakeholders to achieve a paperless, technology-driven port environment that enhances efficiency, reduces turnaround time, and curbs corruption.

“As part of this commitment, the Federal Government has approved a \$1 billion modernisation project for the Lagos ports, a landmark initiative designed to upgrade infrastructure, improve cargo handling, and expand capacity to meet global standards.

In addition, the procurement process has commenced for similar modernisation projects at ports outside Lagos, to ensure balanced development across our maritime gateways,” Oyetola said.

The Minister explained that these initiatives reflect the administration's determination to boost logistics

performance and competitiveness within the marine and transport sectors, positioning Nigeria as a preferred hub for maritime trade and investment.

He further noted that through strategic interventions such as the Deep Blue Project, Nigeria has sustained a record of zero piracy incidents in the past three years.

According to him, the Ministry is creating an enabling environment for private sector investment through regulatory reforms, public-private partnerships (PPP), and targeted incentives aimed at driving innovation and job creation across the value chain.

Oyetola stressed that the Ministry's overarching goal is to promote sustainable and inclusive growth — one that balances economic opportunity with environmental stewardship and social equity.

He urged CILT and its members to continue to champion the adoption of smart and green transport technologies, promote capacity building for young professionals and operators, advocate for data-driven planning in logistics

management, and deepen collaboration with the Ministry and other stakeholders to align expertise with national priorities.

Meanwhile, the President of CILT Nigeria, Mfon Usoro, announced a 242 per cent increase in the Institute's revenue over the past four years, reflecting the success of ongoing financial reforms and governance initiatives.

According to her, CILT's revenue rose from N7.8 million in December 2021 to N55 million in the third quarter of 2025, while its liquid assets grew from N17 million in early 2022 to N123 million as of Q3 2025.

She attributed the growth to sound financial discipline, accountability, and strategic oversight, adding that all projects and expenditures now pass through the Finance, Budget, and Audit Committee for review.

Usoro revealed that the Council has approved the adoption of a modern Accounting Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system to enhance transparency and streamline audits.

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...quality speaks

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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

NNPC Profit Plunges To N216bn In Sept, Down 71% In 6 Months

Culled

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company (NNPC) Limited has reported a drastic collapse in its profitability, with its Profit After Tax (PAT) falling to N216 billion in September 2025, the company revealed in a report.

This development indicated a staggering 71 percent decline from the N748 billion recorded just six months earlier in April, according to an analysis of the company's monthly report summaries.

This sharp and sustained downturn, detailed in summaries from April to September 2025, signalled a significant reversal of fortune for the state-owned oil giant and raises concerns about its financial contributions to the nation's treasury amid volatility in the sector.

In April, the NNPC reported N748 billion profit after tax. PAT then rose to N1.05 trillion in May, and declined to N905 billion in June.

The state-owned oil company continued on a downward slope in July, recording



Ojulari

N185 billion PAT in the sales and income tax," Gas Senior Staff Association (PENGASSAN). The decline could be linked to the recorded decline in crude oil production in September.

"The PAT recorded in September included adjustments to cost of Petroleum and Natural Gas on the back of the 3-day industrial action of the day of crude oil to the recent strike action

embarked upon by the nation's oil workers, culminating in a total of over 600,000 barrels during the three-day supply disruption.

He said: "I think it was unfortunate that the Dangote and PENGASSAN issue led to strike and whenever there is strike and critical staff manning critical facilities are not available and optimum production is almost impossible.

"In this particular case, we actually lost significant production of over 200,000 bpd that was deferred.

"We also have gas production that was deferred, we also have power generation that was impacted by about 1.2 megawatts of power that was affected by that strike," he said.

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) also shared the same sentiment, stating that Nigeria's crude oil production fell to 1.39 million barrels per day in September from 1.43 million barrels per day (mbpd) recorded in August 2025.

Meanwhile, the NNPC recorded N4.269 trillion in revenue in September, falling from N4.655 trillion reported in August.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

FG, Partners Launch Green Transport Initiative To Empower Youth



President Bola Tinubu

The Federal Government, through the Federal Ministry of Youth Development, has launched a landmark green transport initiative in partnership with the National Commercial Tricycle and Motorcycle Owners and Riders Association of Nigeria (NATOMORAS) and House of Destiny Global Services Limited. This initiative aims to empower Nigerian youth through sustainable transport and clean energy solutions.

The initiative, formally unveiled during a signing ceremony in Abuja, marks a significant step toward promoting youth empowerment, job creation, and environmental sustainability nationwide.

Speaking at the event, the Minister of Youth Development, Comrade Ayodele Olawande, described the partnership as a transformative intervention that aligns with the ministry's strategic vision to create meaningful economic opportunities for young Nigerians.

He said: "This initiative seeks to facilitate access to affordable electric tricycles and motorcycles for young operators, promote clean energy adoption, establish local assembly and maintenance hubs to boost employment and technical capacity, and provide training in electric vehicle technology, maintenance, battery management, and sustainable business practices." He commended House of Destiny Global Services Limited for its innovation and investment in the transport sector, as well as NATOMORAS for its extensive grassroots network and unwavering advocacy for transport operators nationwide.

In a statement, the Director of Information and Public Relations at the Ministry, Omolara Esan, highlighted that the collaboration reflects the Federal Government's renewed focus on creating youth-centred solutions that combine innovation with environmental responsibility.

Representing the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Olubunmi Olusanya, the Director of General Services, Mr. Wale Joseph, reaffirmed the Ministry's dedication to innovation-driven youth empowerment.

He noted that the collaboration among the Ministry, House of Destiny, and NATOMORAS represents a bold step toward cleaner mobility, job creation, and increased productivity for young Nigerians.

In his remarks, the Chief Executive Officer of House of Destiny Global Services Limited, Dr. Israel Olajumo, expressed confidence in the partnership's potential to

create lasting value for Nigerian youth.

He emphasised that the initiative will equip young people with the knowledge and skills to actively participate in the nation's clean energy transition. Dr. Olajumo further highlighted that beyond transportation, the project aims to boost local manufacturing, encourage technical innovation, and reduce unemployment through capacity-building and enterprise development in the mobility sector.

Also speaking, the representative of NATOMORAS, Madonna Corosi, expressed gratitude to the Ministry and House of Destiny for forming a partnership that directly benefits members of the association.

She conveyed appreciation on behalf of the National President, Alhaji Usman Buba Gwoza, assuring both partners of NATOMORAS' full commitment to supporting the successful implementation of the initiative nationwide.

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South Africa's Transnet To Invest \$7bn In Rail And Port Upgrades

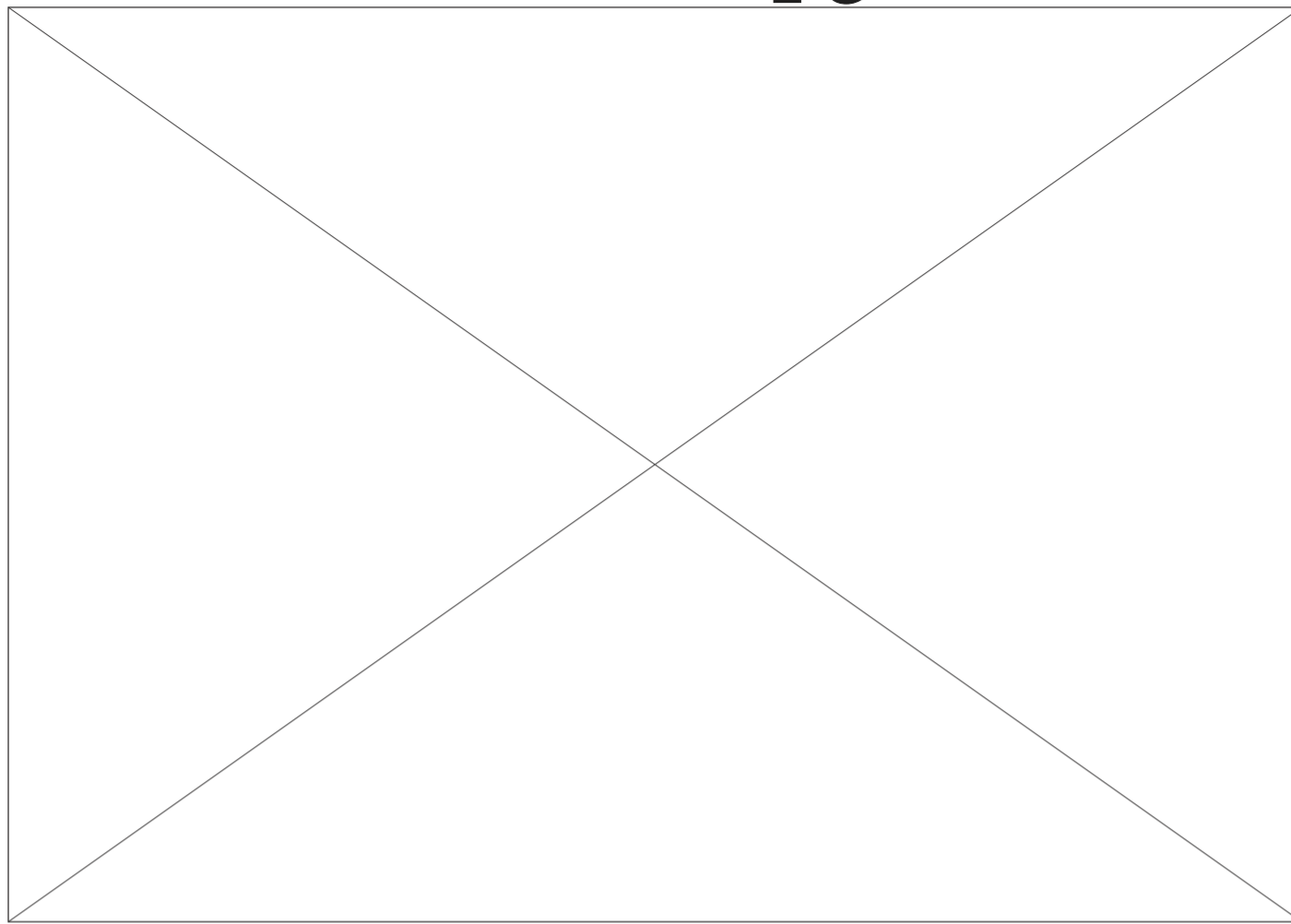
Culled
South Africa's state-owned freight and logistics company Transnet plans to invest 127 billion rand (\$7.3 billion) over the next five years to modernise its rail network and upgrade key ports.

A significant portion of funds has been allocated for key infrastructure projects in the current fiscal year.

Challenges such as equipment shortages and cable theft are being tackled through maintenance shutdowns.

Opening the freight rail network to private operators aims to improve efficiency and increase freight volume. Experts warn that weak payroll oversight is costing South African firms millions each year, as ghost employees continue to drain company funds undetected.

Addis Ababa, in the city center, high-rise, office building, office building, the



Rotunda is the National Bank. South Africa's state-owned freight and logistics company Transnet plans to invest 127 billion rand (\$7.3

billion) over the next five years to modernise its rail network and upgrade key ports. Transnet Chief Executive Michelle Phillips said the company invested 24

billion rand in infrastructure last year and has budgeted 25 billion rand for the current financial year. She said the company will seek both partners

and financiers for key infrastructure projects, including the Richards Bay dry-bulk terminal and the Pier 2 container concession in Durban, according to Reuters.

Transnet, which oversees the nation's rail and port services, has been hampered by equipment shortages, maintenance delays, and widespread cable theft.

Port upgrades underway To address these challenges, the company has begun maintenance shutdowns, including a 10-day closure of the iron-ore corridor, aimed at accelerating repairs across coal, manganese, and container lines.

Upgrades at major ports, including the installation of new cranes in Durban, form part of the broader modernisation programme designed to improve reliability and efficiency.

In August, South Africa said it will open its freight rail network to private operators to improve efficiency as state-owned Transnet struggles with chronic bottlenecks. [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

FG Backs DHQ As Coup Rumor Sparks Political Firestorm

Culled:
The Federal Government, on Sunday, broke its silence over reports of an alleged failed coup to topple the administration of President Bola Tinubu.

The Minister of Information and National Orientation, Mohammed Idris, in an interview with The PUNCH on Sunday, said the government had faith in the military and had no reason to doubt the position of the Defence Headquarters, which on Saturday dismissed the report of a coup as fake.

On Saturday, in a statement by the Director of Defence Information, Brig. Gen. Tukur Gusau, the military had denied a news report by Sahara Reporters, linking the detention of 16 military officers to a failed coup.

The online newspaper had linked the alleged coup to the cancellation of Nigeria's 65th Independence Day by the Federal Government.

Dismissal of the report, however, in an official statement on Saturday, Gusau condemned the report, saying it was "intended to cause unnecessary tension and distrust among the populace."

Gusau said the cancellation of the October 1 anniversary parade was "purely administrative," explaining



President Bola Tinubu

that it was meant to allow President Tinubu to attend a bilateral meeting abroad and enable troops to sustain ongoing operations against insurgency and banditry. While declaring that "Democracy is forever," Gusau said, "The ongoing investigation involving the 16 officers is a routine internal process aimed at ensuring discipline and professionalism is maintained within the ranks. An investigative panel has

been duly constituted, and its findings would be made public." When contacted on Sunday for the Federal Government's position on the development, the information minister responded that it was "a military affair". "The Federal Government has no reason to doubt the military on what it has said," the minister said. "The Federal Government believes that the Armed Forces of Nigeria is

committed to ensuring the territorial integrity of the country and also strengthening its fight against insecurity. "The Federal Government commends the military, and it will continue to support them in their task of ensuring the security of Nigeria." However, the opposition parties in the country are calling on the Federal Government and the military authorities to come clean and ensure transparency.

Find Full Story In The Link

Nigeria's Rising Poverty Is Deeply Troubling

Culled:
The Obi of Onitsha, His Majesty Igwe Nnaemeka Achebe, has expressed deep concern over the worsening hardship and increasing poverty across Nigeria.

Describing the situation as "critical and deeply troubling," Igwe Achebe, who spoke during the 24th Ofala Festival at his palace, Ime-Obi, Onitsha, also decried the growing political maneuvering ahead of the 2027 general elections.

He noted that emerging political alliances appear to be driven by selfish interests rather than the welfare of ordinary Nigerians.

Highlighting the rising insecurity across the country, particularly in the South-East, the monarch urged authorities to intensify efforts to combat violence and restore peace.

He said the theme of this year's Ofala Festival, "Njikọ na Ntachi" (Unity and Perseverance), reflects the nation's economic hardship and underscores the need for empathy, resilience, and collective resolve.

Quoting recent data, Igwe Achebe observed: "According to the latest World Bank Development Update on Nigeria, the national poverty rate has surged from 40 percent in 2018 to 60 percent in 2023, rising from 79 million to 104 million people now living in poverty."

He lamented the difficulty many Nigerians face in accessing basic necessities such as food, healthcare, transportation, and housing, warning that escalating violence was crippling the agricultural sector.

While acknowledging ongoing government macroeconomic stabilization efforts, the traditional ruler called for more targeted interventions to cushion the effects of hardship on vulnerable citizens.

"We urge the government to urgently provide relief measures and palliatives that will directly reach those most in need, bypassing bureaucratic bottlenecks that often derail such efforts," he said.

Find Full Story In The Link

No Truth In Christian Genocide Claim - FG Insists



Mohammed Idris

Culled:
The Federal Government on Monday again described allegations of a 'Christian genocide' in Nigeria as false and malicious propaganda aimed at damaging the country's global reputation.

Minister of Information, Mohammed Idris, who spoke in Abuja at the National Unveiling of the World Public Relations Forum themed "Responsible Communication: The Voice of the World," said the claim was part of a foreign-sponsored campaign to sow

division and weaken Nigeria's unity. Claims of Christian genocide in Nigeria resurfaced last month after U.S. Senator Ted Cruz, during a podcast with television host Bill Maher, alleged that Christians were being "systematically targeted and killed" — a situation he described as genocide. Maher and political commentator Van Jones echoed the claims, accusing the Nigerian government of complicity. The Nigerian government swiftly rejected the allegations, maintaining that insecurity in the country stems from terrorism, banditry, and criminality—not religion. Last Thursday, the Senate also dismissed the claims as "false,

divisive, and capable of undermining national unity." But Idris insisted that those peddling the speculation are not doing the nation any good. He said, "This is a propaganda externally woven by those who want to weaken our unity. For the umpteenth time, I am emphatic that there's no iota of truth in the claim of a 'Christian genocide' in Nigeria. "I therefore urge us to use the instruments of public relations, crafted in truths and facts, to vehemently reject these despicable single narratives about Nigeria." The minister urged Nigerians to be wary of such narratives, stressing that the nation's diversity and democratic strength should not be

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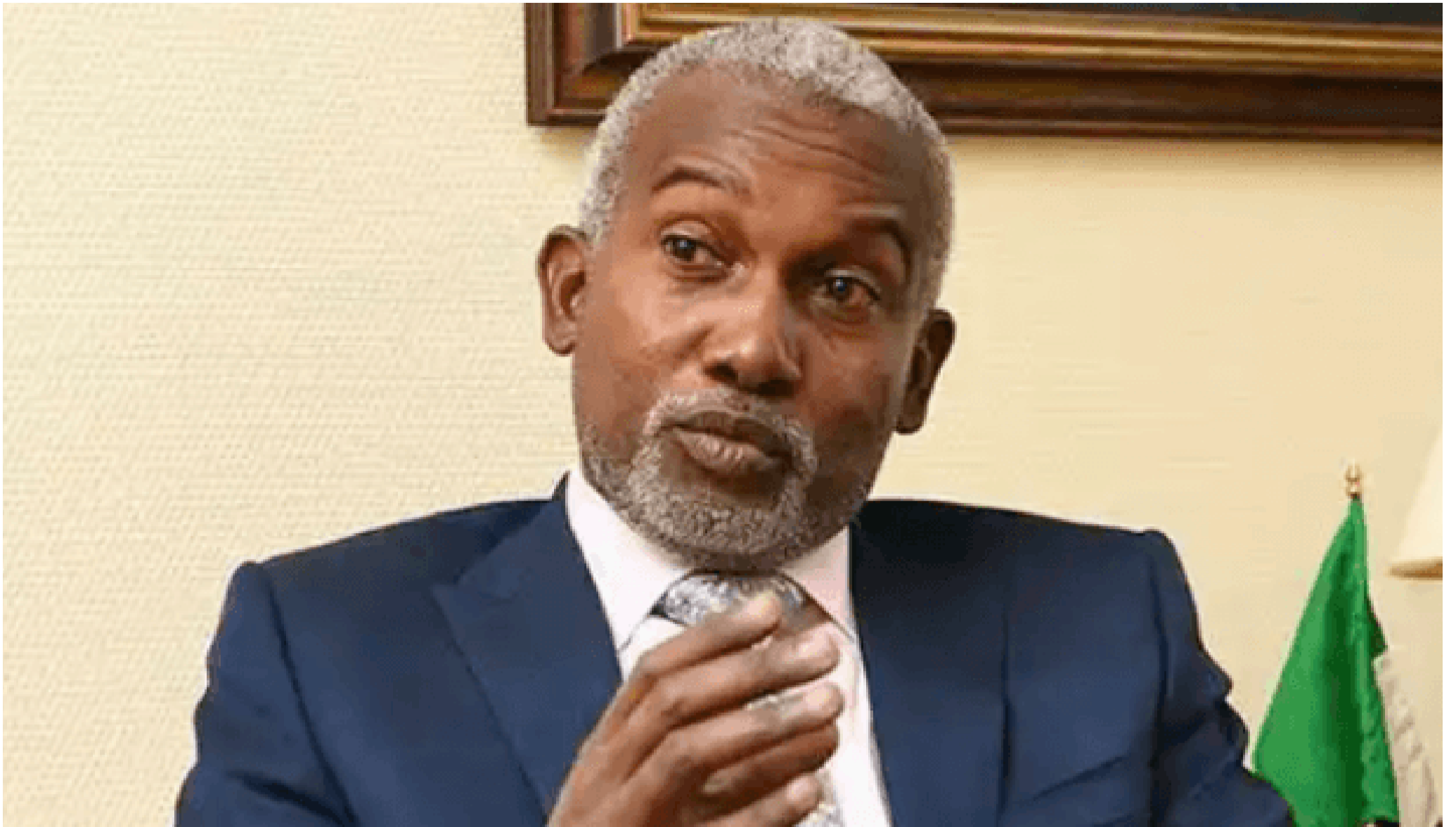
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Yusuf Tuggar

Nigeria Set To Host 2026 World Public Relations Forum In Abuja

Culled:

Nigeria is preparing to host the 2026 World Public Relations Forum (WPRF) in Abuja, Yusuf Tuggar, the minister of foreign affairs, has announced.

Tuggar made the announcement on Monday, during the unveiling of the forthcoming forum at the Nigerian Air Force (NAF) Conference Centre, Abuja.

Represented by Kimiebi Ebiefa, ministry's spokesperson, Tuggar congratulated the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) for securing the hosting rights for the 2026 World Public Relations Forum, describing it as a "remarkable achievement" and a

strong validation of Nigeria's global standing.

"The choice of Abuja for WPRF 2026 is a powerful testament to Nigeria's growing stature on the world stage.

"It is a recognition of our vibrant democracy, our dynamic economy, and our unyielding commitment to fostering open and constructive dialogue, both within our borders and across the continent", the Minister said.

He said hosting the global event aligns with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's foreign policy thrust anchored on the "4Ds", Demography, Democracy, Development, and Diaspora which

seeks to project Nigeria as a premier destination for investment, tourism, and international discourse.

Tuggar highlighted the crucial role of strategic communication in today's interconnected world, noting that effective public relations fosters understanding, strengthens diplomacy, and drives socio-economic development.

"In an era of rapid information exchange and complex global challenges, the role of strategic communication has never been more critical.

"It is the bedrock of mutual understanding and a vital tool for

shaping a future defined not by division, but by collaboration and shared progress," he stated.

According to the minister, the 2026 forum, scheduled for November next year will not only showcase Nigeria's world-class infrastructure, rich cultural heritage, and hospitality but also serve as a platform for African voices to shape global narratives.

He said the ministry of foreign affairs, working closely with NIPR and other relevant agencies, would ensure that all necessary diplomatic and logistical arrangements are in place for a "seamless, peaceful, and exceptionally successful" hosting.

Find Full Story In The Link

Nigeria's Rising Debt Profile Soaring Away Foreign Investors

Legal luminary and founder of Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti (ABUAD), Aare Afe Babalola, has expressed deep concern over Nigeria's growing debt burden, warning that the country's economic reputation is deteriorating and discouraging foreign investment.

Babalola made the remarks over the weekend in Ado-Ekiti during the 2025 International Leadership Conference on Leadership, Governance,

Sustainable Change, and Wealth Creation (2.0), jointly hosted by ABUAD, Nigeria Trinity Western University (TWU), Vancouver, Canada, and the African Centre for Leadership, Strategy, and Development (CentreLSD).

Speaking at the conference themed "Shaping Transformational Leaders for a Changing World: Tackling Insecurity, Governance and Development", the elder statesman

described the theme as "most appropriate at this time of our development," noting that Nigeria's financial situation has become alarming.

Babalola lamented that the country's worsening debt profile is undermining investor confidence, adding that the local financial sector is also feeling the strain. He cited complaints from banks that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has been unable to honour

government promissory notes.

He, therefore, called for urgent reforms and responsible fiscal management to restore economic stability, investor confidence, and sustainable development in Nigeria.

"The theme of this conference is most appropriate at this time of our development," Babalola said. "Records show that Nigeria is now a big debtor country, with total public debt at N152.4 trillion, or \$99.7 billion. *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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