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The Minister of Works, Sen. Dave Umahi, gave the assurance during an inspection of the road project in Lagos

CONTINUES ON P3

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Natural Gas (CNG) city buses to the federal government through the Ministry of Finance, adding to ongoing efforts to improve

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CONTINUES ON P7



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E - NEWSPAPER

# NRC MD: No Legitimate Land Loss In Iddo Station Transformation

The Managing Director of the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC), Dr. Kayode Opeifa, has reaffirmed that no legitimate trader

will lose their land or business premises as the corporation commences a

comprehensive facelift of the historic Iddo Train Station. Dr. Opeifa gave the

assurance during a meeting with leaders of the Iddo Train Terminus Traders, Ijora

Olopa/Ajeloro Fish Traders, Ifelodun Traders, and Otto

CONTINUES ON P2

## NIMASA Seeks Stronger Port State Control To Enhance Safety

P2

## Bauchi Flags Off Rural Roads, Agricultural Markets Project

P2

## Wike Inspects Two Key FCT Roads, Hints On Completion

P2



Nigerian Railway Commission (NRC)

## Nigeria Ready To Host ACI Africa Regional Aviation Conference - Keyamo

Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Mr Festus Keyamo, has said Nigeria has the capacity, infrastructure and

commitment to deliver a world-class event like the Airports Council International, ACI, Africa Acrobatics Regional Conference

and Exhibition. He said this as the Secretary General of the ACI Africa, Mr Alli Tounsi, visited to assess the country's

level of preparedness for the event. Tounsi had visited Keyamo in Abuja alongside executives of the Federal Airports Authority

CONTINUES ON P3

## Truckers Urge NPA To Renew ETO Operator Contractor

P5

## Local Transport News

# NIMASA Seeks Stronger Port State Control To Enhance Safety

### Culled

The Director General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Dayo Mobereola, has said that effective Port State Control (PSC) is one of the most potent tools of ensuring global safety and maintenance of environmental standards in shipping.

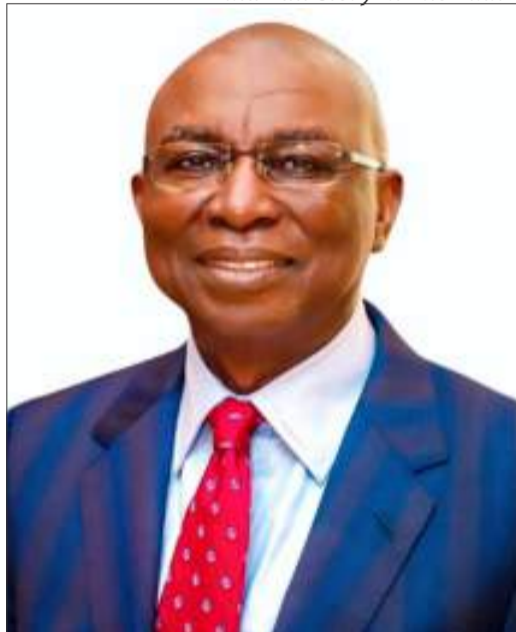
Mobereola who said this at a 5-day Regional Train the Trainer Workshop on Port State Control (PSC) for Member States of the Abuja Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), with the support of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), further emphasized that the quality of the professionals who implement PSC determines its overall success.

Represented by the Executive Director, Operations, Engr. Fatai Taiye Adeyemi, the DG described the workshop as a reflection of Africa's shared commitment to safer, cleaner, and more efficient shipping.

"Your presence here demonstrates our collective resolve to strengthen efficient maritime governance, improve safety standards, and enhance environmental protection across West and Central Africa," he stated.

The DG commended the IMO, the Abuja MoU Secretariat, and all technical partners for their continued support towards capacity-building, regional cooperation, and the promotion of maritime safety in Africa.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Dr. Mobereola

# Bauchi Flags Off Rural Roads, Agricultural Markets Projects

### Culled

Bauchi State Governor, Bala Mohammed, on Monday flagged off Phase II of the Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project, covering a total of 203.47 kilometres of roads across 12 rural communities.

Speaking during the inauguration ceremony in Gamawa, Mohammed said the project is aimed at improving rural mobility, boosting agricultural value chains and strengthening economic activities across the state.

He listed the roads under the Phase II project to include, "24km Lanzai-Papa road; 14.45km Misau-Beti-Maladunba road; 28km Gamawa-Sakwa road; 14.75km Dargazu-Gambaki-Chinade-Ga ngai road.

"6.68km Yana-Fago road; 6.6km Giade-Tagwaye road; 4.91km Gadar, Maiwa-Zakara road; 25km Dagu-Ningi road; 36.65km Dott-Dado-Baraza road; 8.86km Nabardo-Gadan Doka-Jama'a road; 6.71km Mararraban Dajin-Dajin road; and the 26.8km Mararraban Liman Katagum-Polchi-Kastinawa road."

The governor added that the RAAMP initiative also includes the establishment of agro-logistics markets across the three senatorial districts of the state to strengthen the agricultural supply chain.

According to him, Bauchi State has consistently met its counterpart funding obligations, earning commendations from the World Bank as one of the best-performing states among the 19 participating in the project.

He also disclosed that the Gamawa town market would be rebuilt to maximise its economic potential.

Representative of the National Coordinator of RAAMP, Engineer Aminu Bodinga, commended the Bauchi State Government for what he described as a "remarkable milestone" in transforming rural access across the state.

He said Bauchi has disbursed over N6 billion in counterpart funding, one of the highest nationwide, while fully operationalising over N3.8 billion for the Rural Access Road Fund and N3.4 billion for the State Road Fund.

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# NRC MD: No Legitimate Land Loss In Iddo Station Transformation

### Culled

The Managing Director of the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC), Dr. Kayode Opeifa, has reaffirmed that no legitimate trader will lose their land or business premises as the corporation commences a comprehensive facelift of the historic Iddo Train Station.

Dr. Opeifa gave the assurance during a meeting with leaders of the Iddo Train Terminus Traders, Ijora Olopa/Ajeloro Fish Traders, Ifelodun Traders, and Otto Traders at the NRC Conference Room on Friday.

He said the meeting was convened to allay fears over the planned redevelopment and to reassure traders of the safety of their businesses and investments as the corporation begins the transformation of one of the country's oldest rail terminals.

While noting that the exercise may lead to the removal of some illegal shanties, Dr. Opeifa lamented that several traders had operated for years without valid documentation, with



Nigerian Railway Commission (NRC)

many making payments to unauthorized individuals.

"The present administration of the Nigerian Railway Corporation is determined to transform the Iddo Train Station. You can already see initial signs, including the repainting of parts of the terminus. Let me assure you that we are bringing back the trains to serve our people," he said.


Dr. Opeifa emphasized that no trader with legitimately acquired land from the NRC would be displaced, but expressed concern over the indiscriminate construction of structures on railway tracks without approval.


He outlined the corporation's plans to improve cleanliness and restore basic amenities at Iddo, including electricity

and toilet facilities. He also announced the creation of a dedicated Business Unit for Iddo, underscoring the station's strategic importance.

"We are determined to flush out drug traffickers and ensure that Iddo is no longer a hideout for criminals. The time has come for rightful tenants to benefit from a fully transformed Iddo Train Terminus," he stated.

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I wish you more wins and successes as you continue to progress professionally.

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Vice-Chancellor,  
Federal University of Transportation, Daura



**Local Transport News****Ogbomosho Inner Roads Rehabilitation To Commence In Two Weeks - Makinde****Culled**

Oyo state governor Engr Seyi Makinde has given assurance that the rehabilitation of Ogbomosho inner roads would commence in about two weeks.

Engr Makinde made this disclosure Monday at the 2026 budget presentation in the Oyo State House of Assembly.

The governor presenting the budget tagged "Budget of Economic Expansion," said rehabilitation of feeder roads would begin in Ogbomosho before expanding to other zones.

ogbomosoinightonline.com recalls Governor Makinde on September 30, 2025, at the Palace of Soun of Ogbomosoland Oba Ghandi Afolabi Olaoye Orumogege III, promised the project execution would commence within six weeks from September 30, and that it would be handled by two construction companies Craneburg and Kopek.

However, there have been concerns the project had failed to take off some

eight weeks after.

But speaking at the budget presentation attended by members of the OYHA, members of the executive committee, traditional rulers and other eminent personalities, he explained the project was presently undergoing due process and that in the next two weeks the contractors would be mobilised to site.

"I have said the rehabilitation of feeder roads in other zones would commence in Ogbomosho, and presently, the project is undergoing due process and will get

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Governor Makinde

**Nigeria Ready To Host ACI Africa Regional Aviation Conference****Culled**

Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Mr Festus Keyamo, has said Nigeria has the capacity, infrastructure and commitment to deliver a world-class event like the Airports Council International, ACI, Africa Acrobatics Regional Conference and Exhibition.

He said this as the Secretary General of the ACI Africa, Mr Alli Tounsi, visited to assess the country's level of preparedness for the event.

Tounsi had visited Keyamo in Abuja alongside executives of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria, FAAN, including the Managing Director, Mrs Olunmi Kuku; Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, Henry Agbebire and Director of Commercials and Business Development, Adebola Agunbiade, as part of preparations for hosting the event.

A statement by Keyamo's Special Adviser on Media and Communications, Mr Tunde Moshood, said Tounsi, in his

remarks, emphasised the importance of Nigeria's role in African aviation and the strong case for the country to host next year's regional conference.

According to the statement, he said: "Nigeria must host this next Acrobatics Regional Conference. BAGASSO is already in Nigeria, and it is only right that ACIAfrica is here too."

Moshood, who quoted Keyamo's response, said he expressed the country's readiness to host the event.

The statement quoted Keyamo saying: "Nigeria has the capacity, the infrastructure, and the commitment to deliver a world-class conference. You can count on us."

Meanwhile, Moshood further stated that Kuku outlined initiatives already underway to ensure a successful hosting.

She revealed that although the event is tentatively scheduled for September 2026 in Abuja with the exact date to be announced, Nigeria is taking proactive steps to meet and surpass expectations.

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**FG Assures 21-month Delivery Of Lekki Deep Seaport-Epe Road****Culled**

The Federal Government says the 25km access road linking Lekki Deep Seaport to Epe and Ijebu-Ode will be delivered within its 21-month schedule.

The government described the project as highly viable and fully on course.

The Minister of Works, Sen. Dave Umahi, gave the assurance during an inspection of the road project in Lagos on Sunday.

Umahi expressed confidence in the capacity and track record of China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC), the contractor handling the project.

He said that CHEC won the contract through a competitive bidding process, citing its construction of the Lekki Deep Seaport, Keffi-Makurdi Super Highway and the ongoing Makurdi-Enugu Road.

"The project is 50km in total – 25km by two carriageways, six lanes with major bridges of about 3.5km and 2.4km.

"I believe strongly that China Harbour will complete this job within 21 months," he said.

The minister said the Federal



Senator Umahi

Government had already paid 30 per cent of the project cost, while the contractor would source the remaining 70 per cent under an Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Finance (EPC+F) arrangement.

According to him, the loan would be repaid through tolling on the corridor, once completed.

Umahi said that feasibility studies had confirmed the viability of the project.

"China Harbour will have the right of first refusal when government begins the process of operation and maintenance.

"We have done the traffic counts and this road can pay for itself," he said.

Umahi said the financing approach had strong and transparency safeguards.

He noted that Section 1 of the Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway was oversubscribed by 100 million dollars when presented to international lenders

led by the Dutch Development Bank.

"They told us the project was undervalued. International funders are meticulous; they do not disburse without going to site.

"With the involvement of the Debt Management Office, Ministry of Finance and the attorney-general, there is little room for anything other than due process," he said.

On the total cost of the access road project, the minister said he would release details after final adjustments to both the dollar and naira components.

On challenges being addressed, Umahi said discussions were ongoing with China Harbour, Dangote Group and Lagos State Government to redesign a section of the project where a three-kilometre bridge might be replaced with backfilling across a non-flowing lagoon. He also noted delays caused by a shrine located on the corridor, but said that the setback would not hinder progress.

"I have removed shrines in many places. If the people do not remove this one, I will come and remove it myself," he said.

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## Local Transport News

# Soldiers Destroy Seven Illegal Oil Refining Sites, Arrest Four

### Culled

Soldiers from the 6 Division, Nigerian Army, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, have destroyed seven illegal crude oil refining sites in their sustained efforts in the Niger Delta Region.

During the operation, soldiers arrested four suspects and recovered 109,000 litres of stolen petroleum products.

6 Division Army Public Relations, in a statement in Port Harcourt, yesterday, said success was achieved in a sustained operation against oil theft.

Danjuma said: "In the latest operations conducted with other security agencies between 10 and 23 November 2025, several illegal refining sites were taken out, four suspected oil thieves were arrested with over 109,000 litres of stolen products recovered across the NDR.

"These include over 88,000 litres of stolen crude oil and 21,355 litres of illegally refined Automotive Gasoline Oil (AGO). The total cost of the products recovered amounted to over One Hundred and Fifty Million Naira only."

Danjuma disclosed that the operations were conducted in Rivers, Akwa Ibom and Delta State.

He said: "Operations conducted in Rivers State around Okolomade in Ahoada West Local Government Area (LGA) led to the deactivation of three illegal refining sites, three big pots, four big receivers and three big coolants, with over 40,000 litres of stolen crude and 20,000 litres of illegally refined AGO recovered. At the fringes of the Imo River, troops discovered three illegal refining sites, eight drum pots,

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illegal oil refinery

### Culled

Association of Maritime Truck Owners (AMATO) has called on the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) to renew the contract of Truck Transit Park Limited (TTP), operators of the ETO electronic call-up system.

They insisted that the digital platform ended the N350,000-per-truck extortion regime and the years of crippling gridlock that once paralysed Apapa and Tin Can Island.

In a statement signed by its Secretary General, Mohammed Sani Bala, at the weekend, the association said truckers will resist attempts by "vested interests" to return the ports to what it described as the "dark era of manual call-up chaos.

"Before ETO, truckers paid as much as N350,000 just to access the ports. Drivers spent weeks or even months on the queue to make a single trip. Our drivers were dying behind the steering. Apapa became a ghost town. Businesses collapsed under the weight of the gridlock," Bala said.

The association said any campaign against the renewal of TTP's contract is

# Truckers Urge NPA To Renew ETO Operator Contractor

"self-serving, dangerous to national interest and a desperate attempt by beneficiaries of the former gridlock economy to regain relevance."

According to AMATO, the transformation brought by the ETO call-up system represents one of the most impactful reforms in port logistics in more than a decade. The group said the platform, introduced by the NPA and operated by TTP, cleaned up a logistics corridor once overrun by extortion rings, racketeers and informal checkpoint operators.

"Since ETO was introduced, all those challenges have practically evaporated," Bala said.

"We access Apapa and Tincan ports within a few days at affordable rates. Traffic gridlock has disappeared.

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# Wike Inspects Two Key FCT Roads, Hints On Completion



Wike

The Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Nyesom Wike, on Monday inspected key road projects in Abuja and reaffirmed the administration's determination to deliver major infrastructure within set timelines.

The minister inspected the ongoing construction of the six-lane road from Life Camp Junction to Ring Road 3 near Karmo, a project being handled by Julius Berger and scheduled for completion by January next year.

During the inspection, Wike had an on-the-spot Q&A session with journalists, where he offered updates on the status of multiple road projects across the FCT.

Responding to a question on the breakdown of works inspected, the minister said the projects include the N2 road, linking the Central Area to Wuse, being handled by Levant Construction.

Wike said, "The first inspection we went is N2 that connects Central Area to Wuse, and that is being carried out by Levant.

"The contractor has assured us that, God willing, by the end of May next year, which is the first week of June, they will have completed that road. It is very key."

He added that the N5 road project, handled by Julius Berger, is nearing completion.

"Here we are in the final stage of the N5. For those of you familiar with this place, we have been here several times when this bridge was ongoing. But today, we are on top of the bridge.

"You have heard what Julius Berger said, by January ending next year, they will have delivered this project. We are very happy with the quality of the job

done," the minister said.

On financing, Wike clarified that the FCT has been operating strictly within its own budget since the year began.

"We are implementing the budget as it concerns the FCT. We have not gotten any funds from the national budget for this year," he explained noting that, "What we are using for now is the FCT 2025 budget, which makes adequate provision for the N5. The N2 linking Central Area to Wuse is being executed through emergency funding. We don't have a problem implementing the budget at all."

The minister also addressed concerns about the functionality of the recently commissioned bus terminals, which some residents say remain underutilised.

The ongoing construction of the six-lane road from Life Camp Junction to Ring Road 3 near Karmo

Wike said, "It is not a question of being quiet. Those who applied to run the terminals are going through procurement. We also want to see the number of fleets they have. We

believe, by the grace of God, before the end of the year, this process will be concluded. We are simply following due process."

On the enforcement of ground rent payments, Wike stressed that Wednesday marks the final deadline for defaulters.

He said, "Certainly, it has to be. There was a presidential intervention that gave two to three more weeks, but it is more than four months now. We cannot carry out these projects without people paying their taxes. We have extended and extended, but if you don't enforce it, nobody will pay. This is the last time—no further extension."

When asked about the consequences for those who still fail to pay, the minister said, "If you have not paid the necessary fees on the premises, the property will become the property of the FCT Administration."

The FCT Administration says it remains committed to delivering modern facilities, improved mobility, and sustainable development for residents of the nation's capital.

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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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# FG Receives 50 Locally Assembled CNG Buses To Boost Urban Mobility

## Culled

Nord Automobiles, an indigenous automobile manufacturer, has delivered 50 high-capacity, ultra-modern Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) city buses to the federal government through the Ministry of Finance, adding to ongoing efforts to improve public transportation in urban centres and expand its clean-energy mobility agenda. Speaking during the ceremony, Oluwatobi Ajayi, executive chairman of Nord Automobiles, stated that the company remains committed to meeting Nigeria's growing demand for both commercial and passenger vehicles.

Ajayi applauded President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for championing and enforcing the Nigeria First Policy, which encourages patronage of locally manufactured products.

"This is an opportunity to showcase our industrial capacity as one of Nigeria's foremost auto makers and to support President Tinubu's Renewed Hope



Nord CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) Buses

Agenda, which aims to provide Nigerians with a better quality of life, including affordable transportation. "We have delivered according to budget, a specification, and on schedule," he said. Ajayi expressed satisfaction that the company continues to add value to the nation, noting that the Presidential CNG Initiative (PCNGi) will determine the nationwide distribution of the buses. "I understand they will be deployed across all six geopolitical zones," he added. He emphasised that the buses were fully assembled at the

company's Epe plant, stressing that CNG-powered vehicles remain significantly more cost-effective than petrol or diesel options.

He further revealed that the factory now has a production capacity of over 20,000 units annually, with the ability to meet large-scale orders.

Beyond buses, Nord also manufactures sedans, SUVs, and other mobility solutions and is currently assembling 1,000 tricycles in Kwara State.

According to Ajayi, PCNGi confirmed that Nord is the first company to deliver 100 percent of its obligations under the national CNG programme.

"We also possess the capacity to maintain the buses. Our after-sales network is the widest among Nigerian assemblers, you can check the BPP website," he noted.

Each Nord-branded city bus is designed to carry 60 passengers, 30 seated and 30 standing, and comes fully air-conditioned. Its additional features include surveillance cameras; an electronic ticketing system, in-built fire extinguisher, spacious aisle and large

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## Efficient Maritime Policing Can Cut Logistics Costs, Others



Maritime

Nigeria stands to save trillions of naira in logistics cost and enhance port competitiveness if the country's maritime policing becomes more efficient and collaborative.

This was the submission of stakeholders in the maritime sector at the weekend during a one day specialised lecture on maritime policing. It had as its theme: "Facilitating Port Efficiency: The Strategic Role of Maritime Police".

Delivering his paper, titled "Police as agent of Economic Change Matrix, Port Efficiency and Global Competitiveness", the Registrar, National Association of Government Approved Freight Forwarders (NAGAFF) Academy, the

training arm of the association, Francis Omotosho, said Nigeria cannot achieve the desired efficiency in port operations unless policing is modernised to support automation, multimodal transport systems and faster cargo handling.

"If regulators and law enforcement continue working in silos, Nigeria will keep losing revenue. But if we coordinate our roles, this economy can save trillions," he said.

According to him, maritime police officers must understand the strategic role they play in supply-chain governance and economic regulation, adding that their actions directly influence inflation, turnaround time, cargo dwell time and overall ease of doing business.

"Every delay you cause becomes a cost on the cargo owner. That cost feeds directly into national inflation," he said.

Omotosho explained that Nigeria's logistics cost remains one of the highest in the region because of

weak coordination among security units, multiple roadblock syndicates and prolonged detention of cargoes. He insisted that the maritime police must lead the shift toward intelligence-driven, technology-backed policing.

Before outlining reforms, he emphasised the need to understand what a port represents—a structured environment built for cargo evacuation, vessel operations, and economic facilitation. "A port is not just a checkpoint. It is a natural or artificial harbour where infrastructure must support seamless movement of goods," he said.

He stated that indiscriminate stoppages, extortion, delays and poor collaboration among agencies fundamentally undermine trade facilitation. "Your job is to secure the supply chain, not to constitute barriers," he reminded the officers.

Omotosho warned that Nigeria has effectively opened a massive

economic coastline from the port gate to more than 400 nautical miles offshore, yet the policing architecture has not expanded to cover the growing scale of activity. "More activities will take place there—legal, illegal and everything in between. The maritime police must already be thinking about how to cover this expanded zone," he said.

He added that new coastal settlements emerging from Lekki to Calabar, supported by fresh road access, will attract traders, logistics operators and smuggling networks. "More crime and more trade are coming. We must modernise our policing tools to match this reality," Omotosho said.

He further stressed that the police must understand the full structure of Nigeria's maritime boundaries, including the territorial sea, contiguous zone, continental shelf and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), all of which fall within their enforcement responsibility.

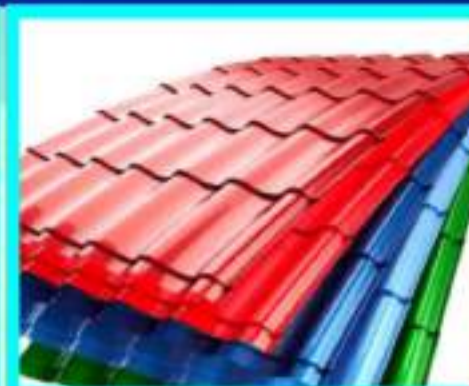
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# Emirates To Integrate AI Across Airline Operation With OpenAI Collaboration

*Culled*

Emirates Group has signed a memorandum of understanding with OpenAI to explore practical applications of artificial intelligence across its operations.

The agreement will see the rapidly growing airline deploy ChatGPT Enterprise and develop internal training and governance structures aimed at embedding AI tools into its operational, commercial and customer-facing processes.

The move comes as the airline industry grapples with how best to make use of the emerging technology, which has the potential to streamline operations and save carriers vast sums of money.

The Emirates-OpenAI collaboration will focus on establishing an internal network of AI "champions" and a dedicated AI Centre of Excellence, while



technology teams from both organisations work together to develop deployment frameworks and controlled testing environments.

The partnership is

intended to allow Emirates to explore practical use cases across multiple areas of the business.

Ali Serdar Yakut, Executive Vice

President IT at Emirates, said the carrier saw "enormous potential for AI technology" to support its business

requirements, "helping us tackle complex

commercial challenges, strengthening our operations, and enhancing the customer experience".

Emirates and OpenAI have entered into a

strategic collaboration to advance AI adoption and innovation across the airline

He added: "Closely working with OpenAI will make our technology investments both strategic and scalable, enabling us to deliver enhanced value to our employees and customers, fundamentally changing how we innovate, deliver value, and maintain our competitive edge in the industry."

Rod Solaimani, Regional Director MENA & Central Asia at OpenAI, described Emirates's plan for AI incorporation as a "bold vision" for how the technology could "transform the future of aviation".

He said: "With this collaboration, we're proud to help them bring that vision to life – embedding intelligence across their operations, empowering teams with  
*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

# US To Boost Nigeria's Security With Intelligence, Defence Support

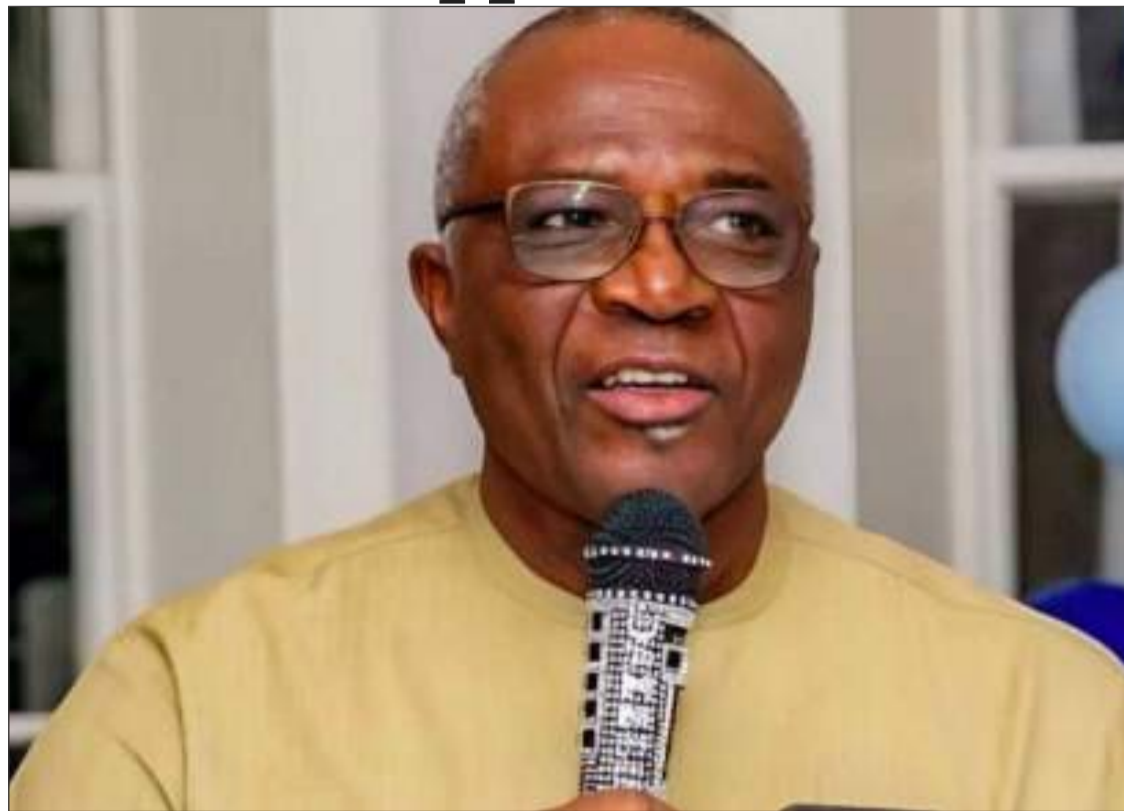
*Culled:*

The Presidency says the United States Government has signalled a renewed commitment to boosting security collaboration with Nigeria, including expanded intelligence sharing and the supply of military equipment to support counter-terrorism and counter-extremism operations nationwide.

This assurance followed a series of high-level meetings in Washington last week between senior Nigerian officials and key arms of the US Government, aimed at strengthening defence ties and exploring new areas of cooperation.

The Nigerian delegation, led by National Security Adviser Nuhu Ribadu, held discussions with officials from the US Congress, the White House Faith Office, the State Department, the National Security Council and the Department of War.

Other members of the delegation included the Attorney General of the Federation, Lateef Fagbemi; the Chief of Defence Staff, General Olufemi Oluyede; the Chief of Defence Intelligence, Lieutenant General Emmanuel Undiandeye; the Inspector General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun; and two representatives from the Office of the National



Bayo Onanuga

Security Adviser.

This was disclosed in a statement issued on Monday by the Special Adviser to President Bola Tinubu on Information and Strategy, Bayo Onanuga.

Onanuga said the Nigerian team used the engagements to address misconceptions about the country's security situation, Channels reports.

He added that they dismissed claims of genocide, stressing that violence in Nigeria cuts across religious and ethnic

communities and should not be mischaracterised in ways that deepen division.

"The discussions provided ample opportunity to correct misconceptions about Nigeria, forged a constructive, solution-driven partnership with the United States, reinforced mutual trust, and advanced a coordinated approach to protecting vulnerable communities, especially in the Middle Belt.

"The United States also expressed its willingness to

extend complementary support, including humanitarian assistance to affected populations in the Middle Belt and technical support to strengthen early-warning mechanisms," he said.

Onanuga added that both countries agreed to immediately begin implementing a non-binding cooperation framework and to set up a Joint Working Group to coordinate actions in priority areas.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# MTN Nigeria Unveils Nationwide Festive Campaign

*Culled:*

MTN Nigeria has unveiled its festive campaign, 'YelloTide', a nationwide initiative aimed at spreading joy, kindness and community spirit as the year draws to a close, the operator has said.

The announcement follows the three-day teaser that sparked widespread speculation on social media, with users trying to decode the clues shared by the telecoms operator. The campaign officially kicks off this week and will run through the festive period into early 2026.

According to a statement by the company, YelloTide will unfold in three major phases, combining physical activations, digital engagements and community-focused activities designed to rekindle togetherness among Nigerians after a challenging year.

The first phase, 'Yello Santa', will feature a three-day activation from Thursday, 13 November, to Saturday, 15 November 2025, in six cities: Lagos, Port Harcourt, Abuja, Enugu, Kano and Ibadan.

Each location will host surprise appearances, interactive sessions and giveaways aimed at transforming everyday public spaces into hubs of celebration.

Onyinye Ikenna-Emeka, Chief Marketing Officer of MTN Nigeria, stated that the initiative reflects the company's long-standing commitment to fostering connection at a time when many Nigerians need uplifting.

"This season, we want to bring the smiles back. We want people to remember what it feels like to come together, celebrate each other, and share happiness. From city centres to small communities, we're taking the celebration to where Nigerians are," she said.

The announcement follows the three-day teaser that sparked widespread speculation on social media, with users trying to decode the clues shared by the telecoms operator.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Nigeria Ready For Tourism Investment - FG



Fagade

*Culled:*

The federal government has affirmed that Nigeria is fully ready for large-scale tourism investment, and expressed confidence that the sector has the potential to become a major economic growth engine

and viable alternative to oil.

Abisoye Fagade, director general of the National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism (NIHOTOUR) wooed African investors at the maiden Style de Vie Pan-African Partnership and Investment Networking event in Abuja at the

weekend.

Fagade assured African diplomats and investors that the Nigerian government is prioritising reforms that will make the sector remain attractive, profitable and globally competitive.

"It's important to let the world know that Nigeria is ready to do business especially in tourism and Nigeria is safe to do business," he said. According to him, every challenge in the sector presents an opportunity for growth and return on investment.

The DG described tourism as "a social bitcoin," urging investors to take early positions in Nigeria's underdeveloped tourism industry, which he said has the capacity to generate massive revenue and employment across the country.

He added that every part of Nigeria possesses tourism potential from safaris to agri-tourism and hiking stressing the diversity of opportunities available.

Fagade explained that the government is restructuring the tourism and hospitality value chain through NIHOTOUR to standardise operations, improve service delivery and ensure better visitor experiences.

"For over 38 years of NIHOTOUR, we realised the sector cannot grow without organising ourselves. What drives tourism is repeat purchase, and that is created from experience. Every tourist encounter impacts the image of the country," he noted.

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AfCFTA

# Nigeria Leads Continental Push For AfCFTA Implementation

*Culled:* Nigeria has launched a coordinated national push to strengthen its leadership role in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), bringing government institutions, private-sector actors, and the media into a unified strategy to advance the continent's largest economic integration project.

The initiative was highlighted at the inaugural AfCFTA Public-Private-Press (P3) Summit, convened by the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMITI) in collaboration with the AfCFTA Central Coordination

Committee, with support from Afreximbank and other partners.

The summit, themed "AfCFTA Simplified: Seizing Opportunities for Government and Business to Win Together," aims to deepen national understanding of the agreement and accelerate coordinated implementation.

Speaking at the event, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Dr Jumoke Oduwole, said Nigeria is advancing President Bola Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda by expanding trade integration and strengthening economic resilience amid a shifting global economy.

She described the AfCFTA as "one of the world's most ambitious economic integration projects," covering a \$3.4 trillion market of 1.4 billion people, the majority of whom are young and entrepreneurial.

Dr Oduwole reaffirmed that Nigeria's economic ambitions are tied to a more active participation in intra-African trade, noting that "Africa retains more value when trading within the continent."

She cited Nigeria's historic role in regional integration—from the Lagos Plan of Action to the Abuja Treaty—and highlighted key milestones recorded in 2025.

These include tariff concessions for AfCFTA-eligible goods, expanded digital trade leadership, improved customs capacity, new air-cargo export routes, and the launch of market intelligence tools for exporters.

The minister stressed that the next phase of implementation requires detailed planning across all sectors.

"Government institutions will adopt a performance barometer, the private sector will define pillars of Nigeria's AfCFTA market strategy, and the media will ensure accurate and constructive national communication".

*Find Full Story In The Link*

## Nigeria Moves To Strengthen Online Safety Legislation

The Nigerian government says it is moving to strengthen online safety through a proposed Online Harm Protection Bill.

The bill aims to create a national legal framework for digital security, safeguard citizens, and preserve democratic integrity.

According to the Director General of the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), Dr Kashifu Inuwa Abdullahi, the bill has

become essential as crisis management shifts into a fully digital era where misinformation spreads faster than verified facts and where public trust is increasingly shaped online in real time.

Speaking in Abuja at a National Symposium on Digital Innovations in Crisis Communication organised by the Centre for Crisis Communication, Dr Abdullahi warned that crisis management has entered a new era

where the real contest is over truth, trust and public confidence, all unfolding online in real time.

He noted that false information spreads six times faster than the truth, travels deeper and lasts longer because it is often sensational and engineered to trigger emotional reactions.

He explained that emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, data systems and social

media platforms are designed to amplify novelty, making misinformation more viral than verified facts.

According to him, technology itself is not the enemy. Rather, it is neutral, but bad actors weaponise it during elections, economic instability, social movements and protests, exploiting vulnerabilities to mislead the public, manipulate emotions and trigger harmful consequences within minutes.

*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



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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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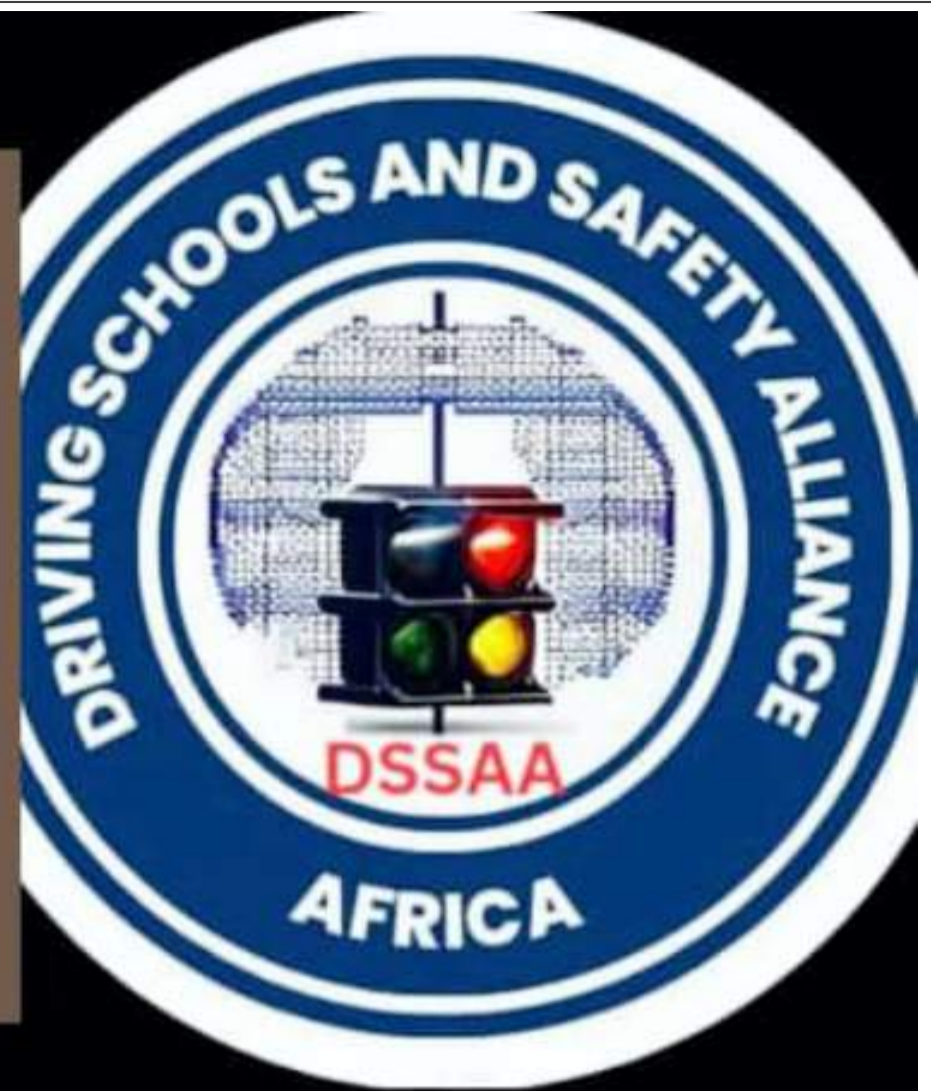


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