## LASTMA Rescues Two Victims Trapped In Multi-Vehicle Crash At Ogudu-Alapere

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) on Sunday rescued two persons trapped in a commercial bus following a multi-vehicle accident along the Motorway inward Toll-Gate corridor in the Ogudu-Alapere area of Lagos.

According to LASTMA, the accident involved a heavily loaded 12-tyre DAF articulated truck and a

CONTINUES ON P2

## Air Peace Partners Dutch Aviation Trainers To Enhance Pilot Expertise

West Africa's largest airline, Air Peace, has engaged leading aviation training organisation, Dutch Aviation Trainers, DAT, in pilot training collaborations, particularly for its Boeing 737 NG fleet.

DAT, which is currently responsible for the training of Air Peace pilots on the Embraer E1 and E2 aircraft types, is further deepening an existing relationship

CONTINUES ON P5

GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION

REPORTING GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

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E - NEWSPAPER

# Nigeria, Liberia Deepen Maritime C'peration To Advance Africa's Blue Economy

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) and the Republic of Liberia have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening maritime cooperation aimed at enhancing regional integration, capacity development, and the growth of Africa's Blue Economy.

Speaking during a courtesy visit by Liberia's Honorary Consul in Lagos, Mr. Dapo Akinosun, to the NIMASA headquarters,

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*Dr. Dayo Mobereola - Director-General, Nigerian Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)*

## FRSC Books 51 Traffic Offenders In A'Ibom During Eid-el-Kabir Patrol

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## C'RIver Launches EV Maintenance Training For 100 Youths

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## FAAN, Lagos Strengthen Ebola Surveillance At MMIA

P5

## NCAA Urged To Strengthen Passenger Protection Amid Rising Flight Delays

The Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) has been urged to strengthen passenger protection regulations and enforce stricter oversight of domestic airlines following persistent flight delays and operational disruptions across the country.

The call was made by the Chief Executive Officer of U.S.-based aircraft brokerage firm Nigame, Olufemi Adeniji, who accused some indigenous airlines of disregarding passengers' rights without adequate intervention from the

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## Osun Monarchs Hail Tinubu Over Road Project

P5

Local Transport News

# FRSC Books 51 Traffic Offenders In A'Ibom During Eid-el-Kabir Patrol

*Culled*

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Akwa Ibom State Command, has apprehended and booked 51 traffic offenders during a special patrol operation conducted to ensure safety on the roads during the Eid-el-Kabir celebrations.

The Sector Commander of the FRSC in the state, Mrs. Felicia Kalu, disclosed this in a statement issued on Saturday in Uyo. She explained that the operation was organised in collaboration with Special Marshals to curb traffic violations that often lead to road crashes during festive periods.

According to Kalu, the exercise focused on critical traffic offences, including driving against traffic, speeding, overloading, dangerous driving and overtaking, distracted driving, the use of mobile phones while driving, and tyre-related violations.

She stated that a total of 51 major traffic offences were recorded during the operation, while motorists involved in minor violations were cautioned and advised to comply with traffic regulations.

"The special patrol was designed to reduce road crashes and promote safer road use during the festive season. A total of 51 critical traffic offences were recorded, while minor offenders were warned and educated on the need to obey traffic rules," she said.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

FRSC

# LASTMA Rescues Two Victims Trapped In Multi-Vehicle At Ogudu-Alapere

*Culled*

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) on Sunday rescued two persons trapped in a commercial bus following a multi-vehicle accident along the Motorway inward Toll-Gate corridor in the Ogudu-Alapere area of Lagos.

According to LASTMA, the accident involved a heavily loaded 12-tyre DAF articulated truck and a commercial Volkswagen T4 bus with registration number AA 60 YF.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the commercial bus somersaulted after colliding violently with the truck, leaving the driver and a passenger trapped inside the wreckage. The incident also caused significant obstruction along the busy highway.

LASTMA officials on patrol in the area responded promptly to the emergency, activating rescue operations to save the victims, prevent further accidents, and restore the free flow of traffic.

Working in collaboration with other emergency responders, the agency successfully extricated the trapped occupants from the damaged vehicle. The victims were subsequently evacuated by officials of the Lagos State Ambulance Service (LASAMBUS) to a nearby medical facility for urgent treatment.

To ensure safety at the scene, the accident area was secured while officers from the Ketu Division of the Nigeria Police Force provided security and crowd control throughout the rescue operation.

Traffic officials later removed the damaged vehicles from the roadway and implemented diversion measures to ease congestion caused by the accident.

Reacting to the incident, LASTMA General Manager, Olalekan Bakare-Oki, commended the agency's personnel for their swift intervention and professionalism.

He said the successful rescue operation demonstrated LASTMA's commitment to protecting lives, enhancing public safety, and ensuring effective traffic management across Lagos State.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# C'River Launches Electric Vehicle Maintenance Training For 100 Youths

*Culled*

As part of efforts to equip young people with technical skills in electric vehicle (EV) maintenance and manufacturing, the Cross River State Government has concluded arrangements to commence the training of 100 youths across the state in June.

The Special Adviser to the Governor on Local Content, Ambassador Awatt Caleb, disclosed this while speaking with journalists in Calabar over the weekend.

He said the training, under the Local Content VOSEP Initiative, will provide free technical education to 100 youths drawn from the state's 18 local government areas, positioning them to take advantage of emerging opportunities in Nigeria's renewable energy and green transportation sectors.

According to Caleb, the programme is part of the state government's broader vision to empower young people with future-ready skills while preparing Cross River for the increasing adoption of electric vehicles and renewable energy technologies.



Governor Bassey Otu

"One of the biggest challenges in the coming years will be who services electric vehicles when they develop faults. Through this initiative, we are equipping 100 Cross River youths with the skills to fill that critical gap," he said.

He noted that as electric vehicles gradually gain acceptance in Nigeria, it is important for Cross River to develop the technical expertise and manpower needed to support the industry.

The programme, scheduled to commence in June, will target engineering students of Cross River origin and other young people interested in automotive technology.

Caleb said the initiative aligns with the administration of Governor Senator Bassey Otu's commitment to creating opportunities for youths and preparing them for careers in emerging industries.

He added that partnerships with automotive manufacturers, including Innoson Vehicle Manufacturing (IVM), as well as other stakeholders in the sector, would help ensure the availability of skilled local manpower to support electric vehicle adoption in the state.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

Local Transport News

# NNPC Crude Oil Sales Jump 37% To 23.65m Barrels In April

*Culled*

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited has reported a sharp increase in crude oil and condensate sales for April 2026, with total sales rising to 23.65 million barrels from 17.27 million barrels recorded in March.

According to the company's April 2026 monthly report summary, the increase represents a month-on-month growth of approximately 36.9 per cent.

The improved performance was supported by higher production levels, as crude oil and condensate output rose from 1.56 million barrels per day in March to 1.68 million barrels per day in April.

In contrast, gas sales recorded a marginal decline, falling to 5.04 million standard cubic feet per day (mmscf/d) from 5.05 mmscf/d in the previous month.

Gas production also dipped slightly to 7,730 mmscf/d compared to 7,731 mmscf/d in March.

NNPC attributed the improved crude production performance largely to enhanced facility uptime across its operations.

However, the company noted that April's output was affected by delays in restarting the Trans Ramos Pipeline following turnaround maintenance, as well as leaks and integrity challenges on some facilities.

The national oil company also posted stronger financial results for the month. Revenue increased to ₦4.97 trillion in April, representing a 79.23 per cent rise from March, while profit after tax climbed by 74.28 per cent to ₦481 billion.

***Find Full Story In The Link***

NNPC

# FG Boosts CNG Capacity As Tinubu Commissions New Facilities

*Culled*

Nigeria has stepped up its push for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) adoption with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu commissioning new gas infrastructure aimed at accelerating the country's transition to cleaner and more affordable energy for transportation.

The commissioning, held in Abuja on Friday, featured the rollout of the Rolling Energy High-Capacity Daughter Booster Station in Jahi, alongside similar projects delivered by Ibile Oil and Gas and Portland Energy in Lagos, and Femadec in Owerri.

The projects form part of a broader national effort to scale up gas utilisation and support the Federal Government's target of running about one million vehicles on alternative fuel.

Despite these efforts, Nigeria has so far converted only about 100,000 vehicles to run on gas amid challenges of consistent gas availability.

Representing the president at the event, Minister of State for Petroleum Resources (Gas), Ekperikpe Ekpo, said the newly commissioned facilities reflect growing private sector participation in gas infrastructure development.

He noted that the projects, supported by the Midstream and Downstream Gas Infrastructure Fund (MDGIF), demonstrate increasing investor confidence in Nigeria's gas sector and align with the government's Decade of Gas Initiative.

“These investments are directly aligned with the Federal Government's commitment to position natural gas as a catalyst for industrialisation, energy security, transportation transformation and economic diversification,” Ekpo said.

Nigeria holds approximately 215 trillion cubic feet of proven gas reserves, one of the largest in the world. The government has repeatedly emphasised the need to harness this resource for domestic use rather than focusing primarily on exports.

The Jahi facility, developed by Rolling Energy in partnership with MDGIF, is designed to play a central role in expanding access to CNG within the Federal Capital Territory.

***Find Full Story In The Link***

# NCAA Urged To Strengthen Passenger Protection Amid Rising Flight Delays

*Culled*

The Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) has been urged to strengthen passenger protection regulations and enforce stricter oversight of domestic airlines following persistent flight delays and operational disruptions across the country.

The call was made by the Chief Executive Officer of U.S.-based aircraft brokerage firm Nigame, Olufemi Adeniji, who accused some indigenous airlines of disregarding passengers' rights without adequate intervention from the aviation regulator.

Speaking in Lagos, Adeniji recounted his experience on May 13 when he was scheduled to travel from Lagos to Asaba aboard a United Nigeria Airlines flight slated for departure at 7:15 a.m. According to him, the flight eventually departed at about 10:15 p.m., resulting in a delay of nearly 15 hours.

He alleged that passengers received limited information throughout the delay and were subjected to poor communication and inadequate customer service.

NCAA

Adeniji further claimed that the disruption was not limited to the Lagos-Asaba route, noting that flights to Port Harcourt, Kano, and other destinations reportedly experienced significant delays on the same day.

The aviation consultant said the prolonged delays had serious personal and economic consequences for passengers. He disclosed that the disruption prevented his children from attending their grandmother's burial in Anambra State, while many other travellers reportedly missed important business engagements, family events, and other commitments.

He warned that recurring delays and cancellations continue to erode public confidence in Nigeria's aviation industry and expose operational deficiencies among some domestic carriers.

"The scheduled passengers were left in a state of confusion and frustration without anyone properly attending to their concerns," Adeniji said.

He stressed that airlines require adequate aircraft fleets and qualified personnel to operate efficiently, adding that poor scheduling and operational failures negatively impact passengers and businesses.

Adeniji called on the NCAA and the Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, to investigate recurring flight disruptions and strengthen the enforcement of passenger rights.

Among the measures he proposed are mandatory penalties for flight delays exceeding two hours, compensation equivalent to at least 50 per cent of ticket fares through travel vouchers, hotel accommodation for passengers affected by delays beyond four hours, transportation assistance for stranded travellers, and compulsory rebooking of passengers on alternative airlines when disruptions occur.

***Find Full Story In The Link***




#LagosMOT
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Local Transport News

# Air Peace Partners Dutch Aviation Trainers To Enhance Pilot Expertise

*Culled*

West Africa's largest airline, Air Peace, has engaged leading aviation training organisation, Dutch Aviation Trainers, DAT, in pilot training collaborations, particularly for its Boeing 737 NG fleet.

DAT, which is currently responsible for the training of Air Peace pilots on the Embraer E1 and E2 aircraft types, is further deepening an existing relationship focused on enhancing technical expertise and flight operations standards.

Speaking during the meeting, which took place at the Air Peace Corporate Headquarters in Lagos, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Air Peace, Allen Onyema, reaffirmed the airline's commitment to investing in human capital development, safety and continuous training as part of its broader vision to maintain world-class operational standards across its growing fleet and route network.

Representing Dutch Aviation Trainers at the meeting was the founder, and CEO, Captain Paul Ten Hof, and Herman, who engaged with the Air Peace leadership on areas of training collaboration and future capacity-building opportunities.

The partnership further underscores Air Peace's strategic focus on maintaining a highly trained workforce while continuously aligning with global aviation best practices to deliver safe, reliable, and exceptional services to passengers across its domestic, regional and international operations.

*Find Full Story In The Link*




*Air Peace*

# Osun Monarchs Hail Tinubu Over Road Project

*Culled*

Traditional rulers from Osun West Senatorial District have lauded President Bola Tinubu for approving the reconstruction of the 90.9-kilometre Osogbo-Iwo-Ibadan Road, describing the project as a major boost to economic and social development in the South-West.

The monarchs also praised the Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, for facilitating the approval of the road project, which they said would significantly improve transportation and commercial activities across the region.

In a statement issued by the minister's Special Adviser, Dr. Bolaji Akinola, the royal fathers, led by the Abdurasheed Adewale Akanbi, conveyed their appreciation in a letter dated May 27, 2026, and addressed to President Tinubu.

The letter was presented to Oyetola at his residence in Iragbiji, Osun State, for onward delivery to the President.

According to the statement, Oyetola had earlier pledged to facilitate the reconstruction of the road while representing President Tinubu at the coronation of the 41st Owa Obokun of Ijesaland, Adesuyi Clement Haastrup, on May 23, 2025.

In the letter jointly signed by several traditional rulers in the district, the monarchs described the approval of the project as a demonstration of responsive and inclusive governance.

They noted that the road serves as a vital economic corridor linking Osun and Oyo states and has long posed challenges to commuters, traders, farmers, students and other road users due to its deteriorating condition.

The traditional rulers said the President's approval had renewed hope among residents and strengthened public confidence in the administration's Renewed Hope Agenda.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# FAAN, Lagos Strengthen Ebola Surveillance At MMIA

FEDERAL AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF NIGERIA

*FAAN*

The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), in collaboration with the Lagos State Government and Port Health Services, has intensified Ebola surveillance and preventive measures at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA), Lagos, following concerns over the recent Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The enhanced measures followed a joint inspection of the airport's preparedness facilities by health and aviation officials to assess its capacity to detect, monitor and respond to any potential Ebola threat.

The inspection team included Lagos State Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi; MMIA Airport Manager, Olatokunbo Arewa; FAAN General Manager, Aviation Medical Services, Dr. Ibrahim Bilikisu; Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Dayo Lajide; Special Adviser to the Governor on Health, Dr. Kemi Ogunyemi; and the State Epidemiologist, Dr. Ismail Abdus-Salam.

Speaking during the exercise, Abayomi commended FAAN and other stakeholders for their proactive response to developments surrounding the Ebola outbreak in the DRC. He stressed the need for heightened vigilance, particularly in monitoring passengers arriving from countries considered high-risk.

According to him, effective procedures must remain in place to identify, isolate and closely monitor travellers from affected regions while ensuring strict adherence to public health protocols.

The commissioner noted that sustained collaboration among relevant agencies was critical to preventing the importation and spread of infectious diseases through Nigeria's busiest airport.

In his remarks, MMIA Airport Manager Olatokunbo Arewa reaffirmed FAAN's commitment to maintaining all necessary preventive measures and complying with established health regulations.

He called for stronger cooperation among stakeholders and emphasised the importance of swift action whenever Ebola-related symptoms are detected in travellers.

“Prompt detection, reporting and response are essential to preventing the spread of any infectious disease within the airport environment and beyond,” Arewa said.

Also addressing the delegation, the Officer-in-Charge of Port Health Services and Head of the Point of Entry Team at MMIA, Abdullahi Lawal, disclosed that the airport's emergency preparedness and response plan had been reviewed and comprehensive risk assessments conducted.

Lawal said airlines operating from high-risk destinations had been identified, while screening forms were being administered to arriving passengers from such routes. He added that responsibilities had been clearly assigned to stakeholders under the airport's emergency response framework.

FAAN's General Manager of Aviation Medical Services, Ibrahim Bilikisu, said the authority and the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) were maintaining close coordination and information-sharing in line with international health regulations and global best practices.

She further disclosed that airport personnel and other stakeholders had received training and sensitisation on how to identify, report and respond appropriately to potential public health threats.

As part of the inspection, members of the Lagos State Government delegation toured critical airport facilities to verify compliance with Ebola surveillance, screening and prevention protocols.

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Local Transport News

# Nigeria, Liberia Deepen Maritime C'peration To Advance Africa's Blue Economy

*Culled*

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) and the Republic of Liberia have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening maritime cooperation aimed at enhancing regional integration, capacity development, and the growth of Africa's Blue Economy.

Speaking during a courtesy visit by Liberia's Honorary Consul in Lagos, Mr. Dapo Akinosun, to the NIMASA headquarters, the agency's Director-General, Dr. Dayo Mobereola, stressed the importance of stronger collaboration among African nations in unlocking the continent's vast maritime potential.

Mobereola noted that enhanced maritime partnerships would promote sustainable economic growth, improve regional cooperation, and create opportunities for young Africans within the global maritime industry.

According to him, African countries must intensify efforts to build maritime capacity through initiatives such as sea-time training and practical exposure for youths, enabling them to compete effectively in the international maritime sector.



Governor Otti commissioning major road projects in Abia State

"We must collectively build maritime capacity beyond borders. Sea-time training and practical exposure will position Nigerian and African youths to compete effectively in the international maritime space," he said.

The NIMASA chief also commended Liberia for its support of Nigeria's successful bid for a Category C seat at the International Maritime Organization (IMO), describing the relationship between both countries as longstanding and mutually beneficial.

Earlier, Akinosun said his visit was aimed at reinforcing the strong diplomatic and maritime ties between Nigeria and Liberia. He described the maritime sector as a critical driver of economic growth, regional integration, and Blue Economy development across Africa.

The Liberian envoy further praised NIMASA's efforts in repositioning Nigeria's maritime industry for sustainable growth and increased investment.

"Nigeria has demonstrated genuine commitment to maritime partnership and regional growth. Liberia looks forward to deeper collaboration with NIMASA in maritime administration, safety, capacity development, and trade promotion for the advancement of Africa's Blue Economy," Akinosun stated.

The meeting underscored the growing commitment of both nations to fostering stronger maritime relations and leveraging the sector as a catalyst for economic development and regional prosperity across Africa.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Stakeholders Speak On Sustainable Port Operations, Workers Welfare




*Apapa Port*

The Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, immediate past president general of the Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria (MWUN), Adewale Adeyanju, and President of the Nigerian Chamber of Shipping (NCS), Alhaji Aminu Umar, are among key industry stakeholders expected to lead discussions on sustainable port operations at the Shipping Correspondents Association of Nigeria (SCAN) Dockworkers' Day 2026.

The event, organised by SCAN, is scheduled to take place on June 4 at Rockview Hotels, Apapa, Lagos, at 10:00 a.m., with a focus on promoting sustainability practices and improving welfare standards within Nigeria's maritime labour force.

This year's edition, themed "Green Ports: Sustainable Practices for Dockworkers," is expected to drive conversations around environmentally responsible port operations, adoption of efficiency-enhancing technologies, and improved working conditions for dockworkers across Nigerian seaports.

According to SCAN, the initiative is aimed at aligning Nigeria's port operations with global environmental standards while ensuring dockworkers are adequately prepared for the transition to greener and more technology-driven maritime systems.

In a joint statement signed by SCAN President, Moses Ebosele, and Organising Committee Chairman, Yusuf Babalola, the association stated that Dockworkers' Day remains an important platform for recognising the economic contributions of dockworkers while addressing emerging environmental and operational challenges within the maritime sector.

"SCAN Dockworkers' Day serves as a platform to acknowledge the essential contributions of dockworkers to our economy, while also addressing the urgent need for sustainable practices in our ports," the statement noted.

The association added that as the maritime industry continues to evolve, there is a growing need to equip dockworkers with the skills and tools required to adapt to green port initiatives and ongoing digital transformation in global shipping operations.

Umar, president of the Nigerian Chamber of Shipping, is expected to deliver the keynote address, while Adeyanju, who also serves as Deputy President of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), will chair the occasion.

Goodwill messages are expected from the managing director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), the director-general of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), the executive secretary of the Nigerian Shippers' Council (NSC), the acting managing director of the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA), as well as other stakeholders across the maritime value chain.

SCAN also urged government agencies, shipping companies, the Nigeria Customs Service, freight forwarders, and other industry stakeholders to actively participate in the event and contribute to building a more sustainable and worker-friendly port environment.

The association reaffirmed its commitment to promoting collaboration, improving dockworkers' welfare, and deepening awareness around sustainable port operations in Nigeria.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

Foreign Transport News

# Thailand Pushes Thai Airways To Expand Flights To Secondary Airport

*Culled*

The Transport Ministry has called on Thai Airways International to expand both domestic and international flight services to secondary airports across the country as part of efforts to strengthen tourism and regional connectivity.

The proposal was discussed during a recent meeting between Deputy Transport Minister Phattrapong Phattraprasit and executives of the national carrier, according to government spokesperson Lalida Persvivatana.

Under the plan, the ministry wants Thai Airways to increase flight frequencies to key domestic tourist destinations including Krabi and Ubon Ratchathani, while also adding Nakhon Si Thammarat to its route network. The airline currently serves several domestic cities such as Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Khon Kaen, Udon Thani, Hat Yai, Krabi and Phuket.



Officials also encouraged the airline to launch new international routes linking Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong to secondary Thai destinations such as Krabi, Surat Thani and Hua Hin, in order to distribute tourist traffic beyond major hubs.

The policy forms part of a broader government strategy to enhance air connectivity between major cities and smaller regional airports, many of which are managed by the Airports Department under the Transport Ministry, while larger international hubs are operated by Airports of Thailand Plc.

Although Thai Airways is no longer a state enterprise, the Finance Ministry remains its largest shareholder, holding a 38.9 per cent stake.

The push for expanded routes comes as Thailand continues to prioritise tourism-driven growth by improving access to emerging destinations and easing congestion at major airports such as Suvarnabhumi Airport.

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The policy forms part of a broader government strategy to enhance air connectivity between major cities and smaller regional airports, many of which are managed by the Airports Department under the

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Georgia Launches Railway Modernisation Plan - Kvrivishvili

*Culled*

Georgia is launching a large-scale overhaul of its railway system aimed at boosting capacity, efficiency, and regional connectivity, Economy Minister Mariam Kvrivishvili has said.

"We are embarking on a historic renewal of Georgian Railways – a process that will fundamentally transform the company," Kvrivishvili said during a presentation of the reform plan.

The strategy focuses on three key directions: infrastructure development, strengthening freight transport, and modernizing passenger services, combining operational and infrastructure upgrades into a single system.

The minister said the company's financial performance has improved, with an optimization effect exceeding ₾230 million over the past year and net profit rising to 30%. Operating profit margins increased from 25% to 36%.

Rail capacity has also expanded, with throughput on the main line up 30% and transit time across the country reduced by 20%.

Kvrivishvili said Georgia plans to purchase 50 new locomotives and 1,500 wagons, with more than ₾1 billion in investment. The upgrades are expected to cut transit time from 24 hours to 12 hours and double overall transport capacity.

Passenger services are also set for expansion, with new trains planned to increase ridership and improve travel speed and comfort.

Major infrastructure works are underway. Rehabilitation of the Tbilisi-Batumi railway and Tbilisi-Akhaltsikhe railway lines is expected to be completed by August 2026, reducing travel time to Batumi to around four hours and halving journey times to Akhaltsikhe.

The historic Borjomi-Bakuriani railway line is also set for rehabilitation, with completion planned for winter 2027.

Kvrivishvili linked the railway upgrades to broader regional connectivity plans, including the Anaklia deep-sea port project, which she describes as a key component of Georgia's logistics network. Construction of connecting road and rail infrastructure is expected to begin soon.

She added that growing global demand for alternative trade routes has increased the importance of the Middle Corridor, positioning Georgia as a key transit partner between Europe and Asia.

The minister said modernization of major railway stations across the country is already underway, aimed at aligning infrastructure with modern standards and passenger needs.

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General News

# Nigeria-UAE Non-Oil Trade Hits $5bn As First Abu Dhabi Bank Opens In Lagos

*Culled:*

Nigeria's economic relations with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have received a boost as non-oil trade between both countries rose to $5 billion in 2025, with projections indicating further expansion as new financial and aviation investments take shape.

A key highlight of the deepening partnership is the planned entry of the First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB) into Lagos, a development expected to strengthen banking, investment flows and cross-border commerce between both nations.

The UAE Ambassador to Nigeria, Salem Saeed Al-Shamsi, disclosed the figures during a visit to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Bianca Odumegwu-Ojukwu, in Abuja, where both sides reviewed the state of bilateral relations and ongoing economic cooperation.

According to the envoy, non-oil trade between Nigeria and the UAE rose from $4.3 billion in 2024 to $5 billion in 2025, with expectations that it could reach about $8 billion by 2027 as investment channels expand and policy frameworks improve.



*Ambassador Bianca Odumegwu-Ojukwu*

Al-Shamsi also announced that Etihad Airways, the UAE's national carrier, is set to commence operations into Abuja within the year, a move expected to enhance business travel, tourism and connectivity between both countries.

He further disclosed that visa restrictions for Nigerians have been significantly eased, noting that rejection challenges previously faced by applicants have been largely resolved. He added that about 15,000 Nigerians travelled to the UAE in the past year following the policy adjustment.

The ambassador also reaffirmed the UAE's support for Nigeria in its fight against terrorism, stating that his country has issued at least eight official statements condemning attacks in Nigeria.

He presented a formal letter of congratulations from the UAE Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to Ambassador Odumegwu-Ojukwu on her appointment as Nigeria's Foreign Affairs Minister.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, while responding, reaffirmed Nigeria's commitment to strengthening economic and diplomatic ties with the UAE, particularly in attracting foreign direct investment from sovereign wealth funds and private sector players.

Odumegwu-Ojukwu said

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Tinubu Celebrates Airtel Nigeria's Executive, Adeniran At 50



*Adeniran*

*Culled:*

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has congratulated Prince Femi Adeniran, Executive Director of Airtel Nigeria, on his 50th birthday, praising his contributions to public service, private sector leadership, investment promotion and national development.

In a statement issued on Sunday by his Special Adviser on Information and Strategy, Bayo Onanuga, the President joined family, friends, colleagues and associates in celebrating Adeniran's golden jubilee, describing him as a respected corporate executive, public policy advocate and investment promotion expert.

Tinubu said Adeniran's career had been marked by professionalism, courage, adaptability and an abiding commitment to Nigeria's progress.

The President commended Adeniran's patriotism and sense of duty, particularly his willingness at different stages of his career to leave the comfort and stability of senior private sector positions to serve the public interest during critical moments in Nigeria's democratic and economic evolution.

According to Tinubu, Adeniran first demonstrated this spirit of service during the 2011 presidential election when he served as Chief of Staff to the vice-presidential candidate of the Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN), contributing to the organisational and strategic work that strengthened the progressive movement.

The President recalled that Adeniran was later identified by a team established by him to support governance reforms and institutional efficiency and was subsequently seconded to the Governor's Office in Osun State between 2011 and 2014.

Tinubu also acknowledged Adeniran's stewardship as the pioneer Chief Executive Officer of the Osun State Investment Promotion Agency between 2019 and 2022 under the administration of former Governor Adegboyega Oyetola.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# Defence Minister Vows Freedom For Kidnap Victims

*Culled:*

The Minister of Defence, Christopher Musa, on Saturday assured that security agencies were working to secure the release of persons kidnapped in Southern Kaduna and other parts of the country.

Musa gave the assurance in Kafanchan while receiving the Southern Kaduna Grand Commander Award at the 2026 Southern Kaduna Festival.

The minister said the Armed Forces of Nigeria and other security agencies remained committed to protecting lives and property and ensuring the safety of citizens nationwide.

"As we speak, some of our brothers and sisters are still in captivity.

"Wherever they are, they should know that we are with them and we will do whatever it takes to ensure that they regain their freedom," he said.

Musa said tackling insecurity required cooperation among citizens, communities and security agencies.

According to him, unity and collective action remained critical to overcoming security challenges confronting the country.

"We can only do that if we work together in unity. No evil can overcome us because God is on our side," he said.

The minister described security as the foundation for economic growth, investment, education, healthcare and national development.

He assured Nigerians that the military and other security agencies remained focused on defending the nation's territorial integrity and addressing security threats across the country.

Musa acknowledged that security challenges persisted in some areas but said sustained efforts were being made to restore peace and stability.

"While challenges remain, significant efforts continue to be made to address security threats across the country.

"We remain steadfast in our determination to ensure that Nigerians can live, work and prosper in safety and dignity," he said.

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General News




*International Centre for Energy, Environment and Development (ICEED)*

# Group To Make Nigeria's Clean Cooking Campaign National Priority

*Culled:*

A non-governmental organization, International Centre for Energy, Environment and Development, ICEED, has concluded arrangements aimed at making the Nigeria's clean cooking campaign a national priority to attract both the local and international investment to the sector.

Its Executive Director, Mr. Ewah Eleri made the assertion at the Stakeholder Engagement Workshop in Abuja, explaining that an approval has been given to that effect to attract investor into clean cooking interventions, carbon market and climate finance ecosystem.

He said the workshop would look on the key actors in the clean energy efficiency like solid biomass for cooking, as well as examine the current Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) landscape and make it accessible to household and climate change.

"We intend to generate priority actions for a more coordinated clean cooking MRV framework in Nigeria by identifying bottlenecks affecting clean cooking project validation, verification and carbon credit issuance. MRV providers and development partners can better align efforts to strengthen it for clean cooking practically."

According to the Executive Director,

"We will unlock Carbon Finance so that there will be a scale-up of clean cookstove distribution in the country, aligning with Nigeria's NDC commitments, and make it long-term project to encourage investor confidence in the sector."

Also, Dr. Bekeme Olowola,in a presentation on Digital MRV and the Future of Nigeria's Carbon Market, said it should be from episode self-reporting to transaction -native as well as verifier -grade data noting that it must be based on verifiable data and not by human memory or episode surveys.

She argued that one data backbone for the entire ecosystem and will aim at eradicating data silos to build unprecedented buyers' confidence to receive automated due diligence packs, calling for high integrity, zero hardware that would support multi-fuel, and leverage on the smartphone already in the user's pocket.

"Verifier efficiency will improve by up to seventy percent radically accelerating credit issuance and no single solution fits all. Choice must be dictated by project scalable fuel type, and regulatory rigour. We are here to get demonstrate what is possible, not to sell a monopoly.

*Find Full Story In The Link*

# N'Central APC Forum Withdraws Ultimatum Against Yilwatda

The North-Central Forum of the All Progressives Congress (APC) has said it has no intention of causing division within the party ahead of the 2027 general elections.

The Forum made this known as it announced the withdrawal of the two-week ultimatum earlier issued to the APC National Chairman, Prof. Nentawe Yilwatda.

The Forum had in the ultimatum asked Yilwatda to resign in two weeks or face court action, over alleged irregularities recorded in the conduct of the APC primaries.

However, the Forum withdrew the ultimatum, and tendered apologies to Yilwatda, in a statement signed by its National Chairman, Alhaji Saleh Zazzaga, late on Thursday.

The North-Central APC Forum, in the follow up statement, disclosed that the ultimatum was informed by wrong information and a misunderstanding of prevailing issues in the party.

In withdrawing the ultimatum, the Forum pledged its commitment to harmony, peace and progress in the ruling party, even as it equally suggested that enemies of the party might have tried to influence its earlier position on the conduct of the APC primaries.

"The North-Central APC Forum, as a body of well-meaning stakeholders of our great party in the North-Central zone, has always been committed to the development and progress of the party.

"Our call for the resignation of the National Chairman of the APC, Prof. Nentawe Yilwatda, was based on misinformation and a misunderstanding of the true situation. Having become aware of the true facts, we hereby withdraw the ultimatum and extend unreserved apologies to the national chairman and other leaders of the APC.

*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.

Special Features

# DSSAA

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