

Nigerian Airlines Raise Base Airfares To N200,000 Amid Rising Operating Costs

Domestic airlines in Nigeria have increased their minimum base fares to as high as N200,000 for one-way tickets following mounting operational challenges and the continued surge in aviation fuel prices. Checks across airline booking platforms on Wednesday showed that the fare adjustment affected several operators, with industry stakeholders

CONTINUES ON P2

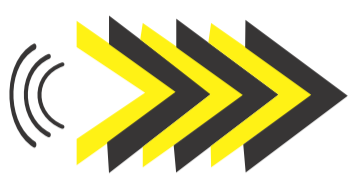
FRSC Impounds 89 Vehicles In Plateau Over Fake Diplomatic Plates

The Plateau State Command of the Federal Road Safety Corps has impounded 89 vehicles for using fake diplomatic

numberplates. The command also impounded other vehicles for overloading and mixloading.

The vehicles were impounded during a strategic intervention patrol tagged "Operation Guduma" on Wednesday in

CONTINUES ON P7



GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION

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NCAA Tightens Airport Health Surveillance Over Ebola Outbreak

The Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority has directed airlines and airport authorities across the country to

strengthen health surveillance measures following the recent outbreak of Ebola Virus

Disease in parts of East and Central Africa. The directive was issued after the World

Health Organization declared the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of

the Congo and Uganda a Public Health Emergency of

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The Muritala Mohammed airport, Lagos

ADFD Reports Progress On Road Projects In Nigeria

The Abu Dhabi Fund for Development has announced significant progress on key infrastructure projects

across Africa, including ongoing road developments in Nigeria, Togo, and Madagascar. In a statement

released on Tuesday, the Fund said it continues to monitor the implementation of its development pro-

jects to ensure they align with approved frameworks and contribute to infrastructure growth in partner countries. According to the organisation,

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Dispatch Rider Dies In Lagos Truck Collision

P5

Local Transport News

Dangote Begins Move To Build Deep-Sea Port In Ogun

Culled

Africa's richest businessman, Aliko Dangote, has commenced preliminary processes for the construction of a major deep-sea port in Ogun State as part of efforts to expand the logistics and export operations of the Dangote Group.

The proposed port, which is expected to be located within the Olokola Free Trade Zone, will reportedly occupy more than 10,000 hectares and is projected to become one of the largest seaports in Nigeria upon completion.

According to reports, officials of Dangote Industries Limited have begun engagements with host communities and stakeholders across parts of Ogun and Ondo states ahead of the commencement of full construction activities.

The consultations are said to focus on environmental impact assessments, compensation processes, and other issues relating to the development of the project.

The deep-sea port is expected to

strengthen Nigeria's import and export capacity while improving logistics support for Dangote Group's growing industrial businesses, including its refinery, petrochemical, and fertiliser operations.

Industry observers believe the project could also ease pressure on the congested Apapa and Tin Can ports in Lagos, which have for years struggled with heavy traffic, delays, and high transportation costs.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Dangote

NIMASA Strengthens Inter-Agency Cooperation On Maritime Security

Culled

The Director-General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, Dr Dayo Mobereola, has stressed the agency's resolve to strengthen its partnership with other security agencies in the country to tackle insecurity in Nigeria's territorial waters.

The NIMASA boss stated this on Tuesday at the Deep Blue Maritime Operational Sea Demonstration and graduation ceremony held in Navy Town, Lagos.

"I wish to reiterate the shared vision to ensure the sustainability of the Deep Blue project. It is our commitment to strengthen these partnerships for the overall progress of the Nigerian maritime industry.

"Together, we shall continue to build a maritime sector that is safe, secure, resilient, and capable of driving sustainable economic growth for Nigeria and the entire world," he noted.

Mobereola revealed that the country had recorded zero incidents of piracy attacks

in the last four years.

"It is important to state that for the last four years, Nigeria has maintained an impressive record of zero incidents of piracy attacks, leading to reduced war risk insurance premiums and restoring Nigeria's global maritime confidence all through the instrumentality of the Deep Blue project.

"Suffice it to state that the successes recorded contributed immensely to Nigeria's election into Category C of the International Maritime Organisation," he added.

During the programme, certificates and awards were presented to over 180 members of the Maritime Security Unit.

"The 177 graduates before us today comprise 33 Special Mission Vessel Officers, 14 Special Mission Vessel Engineers, 107 First Intervention Boat Drivers, technicians, and boarding team, and of course, 23 helicopter team members, who are members of the Armed Forces, the police, and the Department of State Security.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigerian Airlines Raise Base Airfares To N200,000 Amid Rising Operating Costs

Culled

Domestic airlines in Nigeria have increased their minimum base fares to as high as N200,000 for one-way tickets following mounting operational challenges and the continued surge in aviation fuel prices.

Checks across airline booking platforms on Wednesday showed that the fare adjustment affected several operators, with industry stakeholders attributing the increase to rising costs and declining cash flow within the aviation sector.

According to available fare listings, United Nigeria Airlines fixed its minimum base fare at N200,000 across routes, while Air Peace raised its one-way ticket prices to about N211,600. Ibom Air also adjusted its fares upward to approximately N200,300.

However, some airlines are yet to implement similar increases. Arik Air maintained fares between N113,000 and N114,000 for Abuja-Lagos routes, while Aero Contractors retained fares ranging from N123,127 to N146,702 on



Abdul-Munaf Sarina

selected routes. ValueJet's fares currently range between N118,571 and N132,857 for Lagos-Abuja flights.

The development comes as aviation fuel, also known as Jet A1, now sells for about N2,650 per litre at some airports nationwide, further intensifying pressure on airline operators.

Industry sources disclosed that the

fare hike became necessary to keep airlines afloat amid escalating operational expenses.

An airline official, who spoke anonymously because he was not authorised to comment publicly, said the decision was reached after extensive consultations and careful consideration of prevailing economic conditions.

"We have adjusted our minimum fares to N200,000 per flight irrespective of the route. This decision was taken with great difficulty after considering several factors," the source said.

The official added that airlines could no longer sustain the cost burden created by the current price of aviation fuel, warning that continued losses could trigger a major crisis in the industry.

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FAAN Strengthens Ebola Screening At Nigerian Airports

Culled

The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria has intensified health surveillance and screening measures at international airports across the country following the recent Ebola outbreak reported in parts of Central Africa.

In a statement issued on Wednesday by the agency's Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, Henry Agbebire, FAAN said the enhanced preventive measures were introduced in collaboration with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Port Health Services, and other relevant agencies.

According to the authority, surveillance and monitoring activities have been strengthened, particularly for passengers arriving from high-risk regions. The agency stated that travellers are currently being screened for Ebola-related symptoms at entry points into the country.

FAAN added that any suspected case

detected during the screening process would be immediately isolated and subjected to further medical examination in accordance with established national and international health protocols.

The authority reassured Nigerians and airport users that there is currently no confirmed case of Ebola in the country, stressing that it remains committed to safeguarding public health and ensuring safe airport operations nationwide.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



FAAN

Two Brothers Killed As Truck Rams Into Vehicles During VIO Operation

Culled

Two middle-aged brothers lost their lives on Wednesday after a truck reportedly lost control and rammed into multiple vehicles during a Vehicle Inspection Office enforcement operation along Reuben Fazoranti Road in Akure, the Ondo State capital.

The victims, said to be fruit sellers operating near Iyeoma Plaza in the Alagbaka area, were reportedly crushed to death when the truck veered into vehicles and motorcycles close to the VIO headquarters on Ijapo Road.

A commercial driver who narrowly escaped the incident recounted the terrifying moment, explaining that he had parked his vehicle to offload goods when the crash occurred.

According to him, he was about to remove goods from his vehicle when he suddenly heard people shouting and saw the tipper truck crashing into vehicles and motorcycles.

"I immediately ran for my life. The truck crushed the two men on the motorcycle

instantly. I thank God for sparing my life," he said, while lamenting the damage done to his vehicle.

Eyewitnesses said VIO officials were conducting a stop-and-check operation on vehicle licences when the accident happened, causing heavy traffic congestion along the busy route.

The incident triggered panic in the area, with some residents blaming the enforcement operation for creating the traffic situation that allegedly contributed to the crash.

Angry youths reportedly attempted to attack the VIO office following the incident, accusing officials of endangering road users through the manner of the operation. However, officers from the Ijapo Police Division intervened and restored calm.

The bodies of the deceased were later evacuated and deposited at a morgue.

Confirming the incident, the spokesperson for the Ondo State Police Command, Abayomi Jimoh, said the accident occurred at about 11am in front of the VIO office along Fiwasaye Road, Akure.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

NCAA Tightens Airport Health Surveillance Over Ebola Outbreak

Culled

The Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority has directed airlines and airport authorities across the country to strengthen health surveillance measures following the recent outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in parts of East and Central Africa.

The directive was issued after the World Health Organization declared the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

In a circular sent to both domestic and international airlines operating in Nigeria, the NCAA said the move was necessary due to concerns over the possible spread of the disease through international air travel.

According to the agency, the outbreak is linked to the rare Bundibugyo strain of the Ebola virus, which health authorities described as highly severe, with no widely approved vaccine or specific treatment currently available.



NCAA

The NCAA disclosed that although Nigeria has not recorded any confirmed Ebola case linked to the current outbreak, it is collaborating with the Federal Ministry of Health, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, Port Health Services and international health bodies to intensify monitoring and preventive measures at airports.

Health authorities in the DRC were reported to have identified a cluster of severe illnesses among healthcare workers in the Bunia Health Zone in the northeastern part of the country.

The regulatory agency stressed that the aviation sector plays a critical role in preventing the international spread of communicable diseases, adding that early detection and prompt

reporting remain essential in containing the outbreak.

As part of the new measures, airlines were directed to strengthen onboard disease surveillance and comply fully with international public health protocols.

Pilots were also instructed to immediately notify Air Traffic Control of any suspected communicable disease case onboard an aircraft in line with the Nigeria Civil Aviation Regulations.

In addition, flight crew members are expected to complete Aircraft General Declaration forms for suspected cases, while airlines must ensure passenger locator forms are properly filled and submitted to Port Health Services on arrival.

The NCAA further directed airlines to equip aircraft with first-aid kits, universal precaution kits and emergency medical kits, while also reinforcing crew training on the identification and management of communicable diseases.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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Local Transport News

Asharami Synergy Expands Aviation Fuelling Operations

Culled

GTe-Newspaper reports that Asharami Synergy has intensified efforts to strengthen aviation fuelling operations across Africa through strategic technology partnerships and global industry engagements at the IATA Aviation Energy Forum.

The company said the initiative aligns with Sahara Group's "Beyond XXX" vision aimed at driving transformative growth, improving energy solutions, and building resilient industries across its markets.

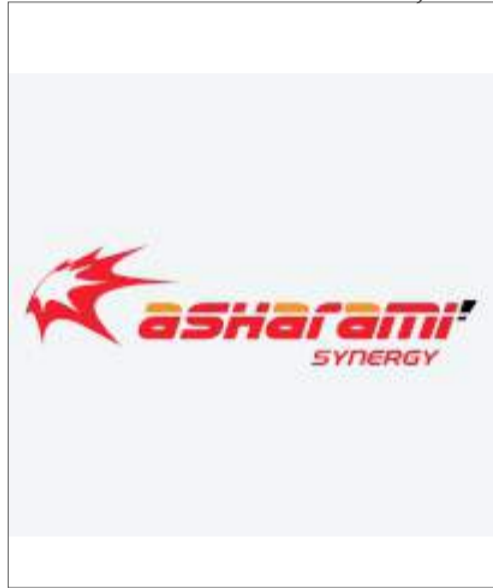
Speaking at the forum in Paris, Chief Executive Officer of Asharami Synergy, Nomnso Dike, said the future of aviation fuelling would be shaped by technology, operational agility, transparency, and sustainability.

According to him, the company is investing in capabilities designed to meet current operational demands while positioning Africa for the next phase of aviation fuelling development.

Dike noted that Asharami Synergy currently operates Nigeria's largest aviation fuel supply footprint and continues to expand its presence across Africa through sustained investments in infrastructure and operational systems.

He added that the company manages more than 20 aviation bowlers supported by globally aligned maintenance systems to ensure safety, efficiency, and reliability in fuel delivery operations.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Asharami synergy

Culled

A dispatch rider has died in a road accident involving a containerised articulated truck along the Ilupeju Bypass area of Lagos State.

The incident occurred barely 24 hours after another dispatch rider was reportedly killed by a hit-and-run driver along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

According to the spokesperson for the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), Adebayo Taofiq, the latest accident happened after the rider allegedly struggled for right of way with a commercial minibus, popularly known as "Korope."

Taofiq said preliminary investigations revealed that the rider lost control of the motorcycle during the encounter before crashing into a moving articulated trailer along the busy Ilupeju corridor.

"The severe impact of the collision resulted in fatal injuries, culminating in the instantaneous death of the rider at the scene," he stated.

He explained that LASTMA officials monitoring traffic around the Mushin axis quickly responded after receiving distress calls and immediately commenced rescue

Dispatch Rider Dies In Lagos Truck Collision

and traffic management operations.

According to him, operatives recovered the victim's remains from beneath the trailer while working with other emergency responders to ease traffic congestion caused by the accident.

Taofiq added that officials of the State Environmental Health Management Unit evacuated the corpse from the scene, while the damaged motorcycle and the truck were handed over to the Nigeria Police Force for further investigation.

Reacting to the incident, the General Manager of LASTMA, Olalekan Bakare-Oki, sympathised with the family of the deceased and urged motorists, especially articulated vehicle operators and dispatch riders, to obey traffic regulations and avoid reckless competition for road space.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

FRSC To Deploy 1,500 Personnel For Eid-el-Kabir In Sokoto

headquarters in Abuja, adding that all officers and marshals across the three sectors under the zone had been placed on full alert for the Sallah period, with no leave or pass granted.

"Road traffic crashes kill more people than one can imagine. That is why all officers and marshals in the three sectors within the zone are on alert. There will be no pass and no leave during the coming Sallah festival"

He explained that the deployment would include 309 officers and 1,250 regular marshals, alongside special marshals, patrol vehicles, ambulances, and other logistics to ensure free flow of traffic, prompt emergency response, and reduction in road traffic crashes during the festive period.

He said that the Corps is also strengthening its operations through digital tools, including the FRSC Mobile Application, which allows for crash reporting, emergency response coordination, driver's licence and number plate verification, as well as public feedback.

Akande said the integration of technology into enforcement was part of broader reforms aimed at making road safety management more efficient and intelligence-driven.

He noted that the Corps' policy direction under Corps Marshal ACM Shehu Mohammed focuses on automation of services, personnel training and retraining, discipline, staff welfare, public enlightenment, inter-agency collaboration, and strict enforcement of critical traffic offences.

He listed such offences to include speeding, dangerous driving, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, route violations, and overloading.

The Zonal Commander urged motorists to exercise caution during the festive period and comply with traffic regulations to avoid avoidable crashes.

"We appeal to motorists to avoid speeding, dangerous overtaking, overloading, route violations, and driving under fatigue. Passengers should also caution drivers against unsafe practices"

Akande also called on state

governments to establish traffic management agencies to complement FRSC operations, noting that states such as Lagos, Oyo, Kano, and Kaduna already have functional systems that support road safety enforcement.

He further stressed the need for stronger collaboration with journalists in promoting road safety awareness and ensuring timely dissemination of accurate information.

"We need more support from journalists in helping the Corps achieve its objectives and record more success stories," he added.

He disclosed that FRSC would maintain 24-hour emergency response services nationwide through the toll-free numbers 122 and 112, especially during the festive period.

Akande also referenced recent reforms and initiatives by the Corps, including regional cooperation efforts through the West African Road Safety Organisation, aimed at strengthening road safety administration across West Africa.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



FRSC

The Federal Road Safety Corps (Federal Road Safety Corps), RS10 Sokoto Command, said it has planned to deploy over 1,500 personnel for special patrol operations ahead of the forthcoming Eid-el-Kabir celebration.

The Zonal Commanding Officer, RS10 Sokoto, ACM Shoba Akande, disclosed this during a courtesy visit by members of the Correspondents' Chapel, Sokoto State chapter, at the zonal headquarters in Sokoto.

Akande said that the deployment is in a bid to enhance road safety and reduce crashes across the zone.

According to him, the operation would commence upon directives from the FRSC



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- Spray paint outdoors or in special booths
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FRSC Impounds 89 Vehicles In Plateau Over Fake Diplomatic Plates

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The Plateau State Command of the Federal Road Safety Corps has impounded 89 vehicles for using fake diplomatic number plates.

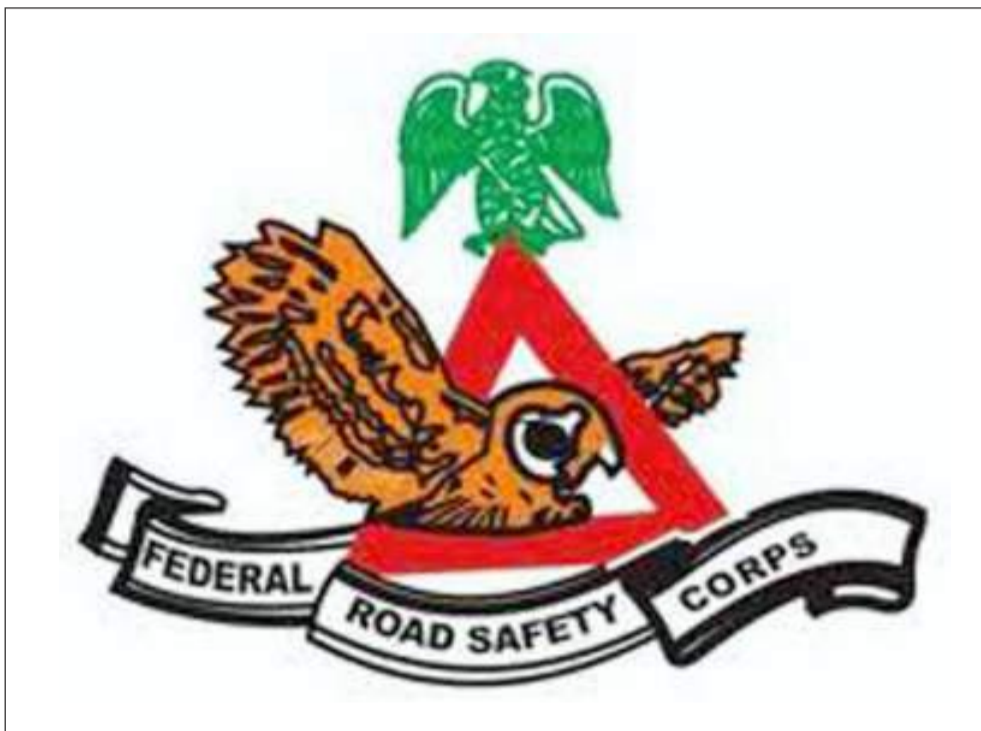
The command also impounded other vehicles for overloading and mixloading.

The vehicles were impounded during a strategic intervention patrol tagged "Operation Guduma" on Wednesday in Jos.

Speaking, Mrs Rebecca Aremu, the Assistant Corps Marshal (ACM) on Special Duties at the FRSC Headquarters, said that the operation aimed at tackling illegal and fake diplomatic number plates, mixloading, and overloading in the state.

She explained that the operation, which commenced on Monday, is currently being enforced in 10 other states of the federation.

She named the states as Rivers, Delta, Anambra, Ogun, Lagos, Kano, Kaduna, Oyo, Enugu, and Nasarawa.



FRSC

Aremu, who decried the rise in overloading by commercial drivers, added that fake and illegal diplomatic number plates contravened the National Road Traffic Regulations.

She particularly said that the special operation aimed at achieving sanity and ensuring safety on highways.

"Overloading has caused untold pain for Nigerians, so we are here to address it.

"Using fake diplomatic number plates is a risk; it contravenes the national road safety regulations. "It also poses a serious threat to national security.

"So far, we have impounded 89 vehicles:

14 for mixloading, 61 for overloading, and 14 for number plate violations in Plateau," she said.

Earlier, the Sector Commander in Plateau, Dr Adelaja Ogungbemi, said that officers and men of the command had been deployed for the special operation.

"We have given our marshals a marching order that it is no longer business as usual; we have also sent out signals to motoring bodies in the state.

"We want to stop the use of fake diplomatic number plates and other unwholesome practices by motorists on highways," Ogungbemi said.

She explained that the operation, which commenced on Monday, is currently being enforced in 10 other states of the federation.

She named the states as Rivers, Delta, Anambra, Ogun, Lagos, Kano, Kaduna, Oyo, Enugu, and Nasarawa.

Aremu, who decried the rise in overloading by commercial drivers, added that fake and illegal diplomatic number plates contravened the National Road Traffic Regulations.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

ADFB Reports Progress On Road Projects In Nigeria



ADFB

The Abu Dhabi Fund for Development has announced significant progress on key infrastructure projects across Africa, including ongoing road developments in Nigeria, Togo, and Madagascar.

In a statement released on Tuesday, the Fund said it continues to monitor the implementation of its development projects to ensure they align with approved frameworks and contribute to infrastructure growth in partner countries.

According to the organisation, the rehabilitation of the Sokodé-Bassar Road in Togo has reached 92 per cent completion, while the road infrastructure project in

Madagascar stands at 80 per cent. In Nigeria, the Minna-Bida Road Project in Niger State has attained 45 per cent completion.

The Fund explained that the projects are designed to improve transportation, stimulate economic activities, and enhance connectivity across the beneficiary nations.

Director-General of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, Mohammed Saif Al Suwaidi, said the organisation remains committed to closely tracking project execution to ensure timely and quality delivery.

He stated, "At Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, we are committed to continuously monitoring the progress across our development projects to ensure their efficient and high-quality implementation in accordance with approved timelines. "Our efforts reflect the Fund's mission to support partner countries in developing their infrastructure and stimulating economic growth, reinforcing ADFD's role as an

extension of the UAE's vision in creating sustainable development impact that benefits communities and enhances quality of life."

In Togo, the Sokodé-Bassar Road project involves the rehabilitation of a 62-kilometre road, drainage systems, flood protection works, as well as consultancy and supervision services. The project, financed with about AED 37 million, is expected to improve connectivity between Lomé and inland regions, reduce transportation costs, and enhance road safety.

The Madagascar project includes the construction of a 117-kilometre dual carriageway and seven bridges. Funded through a concessional loan exceeding AED 110 million, the project aims to improve rural connectivity, ease traffic flow, and reduce transport costs for goods and passengers. It is also expected to boost access to healthcare, social services, agriculture, industry, and tourism.

In Nigeria, the Fund is supervising the Minna-Bida Road Project, its first development initiative in the country, with funding valued at AED 165 million. The 82-kilometre road is expected to reduce travel time between Minna and Bida by approximately 50 per cent and lower vehicle operating costs by about 31 per cent.

The Fund added that its continued oversight of the projects is aimed at ensuring continuity of work, improved project readiness, and measurable development outcomes across Africa.

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UK Eases Sanctions On Russia Jet Fuel, Diesel Imports



Culled
The UK government said on Wednesday that it had eased sanctions on imports of Russian jet fuel and diesel refined in third countries, amid spiralling fuel prices caused by the Middle East war.

The trade licence that came into effect immediately is of "indefinite duration" according to the Department of Business and Trade website, and will be periodically reviewed.

It will allow the UK to import Russian crude oil refined in third countries such as India.

The government also issued a temporary licence loosening sanctions on liquefied natural gas originating from certain Russian plants.

Britain imposed a stringent sanctions regime against Russia following the 2022

invasion of Ukraine, targeting oil exports as well as over 3,000 individuals and companies.

The decision follows a US sanctions waiver for

Russian oil cargoes already at sea, which was extended Monday for the second time as its war against Iran squeezes global oil supplies and sends

energy prices soaring. The European Union criticised the US waiver extension on Tuesday at a meeting of G7 finance ministers that the UK was a part of.

EU economic commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis said it was not a time to "ease pressure on Russia". UK Treasury minister Dan Tomlinson said the

sanctions easing was "protecting the UK national interest".

"The government announced yesterday this time-limited change to the rules around oil and refining, given the extremes of the impacts of the conflict in Iran, and the impact of it washing up on our shores," Tomlinson told Sky News.

In retaliation for US-Israeli strikes launched in February, Iran effectively shut the Strait of Hormuz, though traffic in the key waterway has slowly edged higher during a ceasefire.

Kemi Badenoch, leader of the opposition Conservative Party, denounced the move.

"After 18 months of 'standing up to Putin', the Labour govt quietly issued a licence allowing imports of Russian oil refined in third countries,"

Badenoch said on X. [Find Full Story In The Link](#)

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

Georgia Launches Railway Modernisation Plan - Kvrivishvili

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-Akhaltzikhe 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

FG Assures No Ebola Case In Nigeria, Boosts National Preparedness

Culled:

The federal government has reassured Nigerians that there is no confirmed case of Ebola virus disease in the country while intensifying preparedness and surveillance measures nationwide.

The Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Prof. Muhammad Pate, gave the assurance in a statement issued Wednesday in Abuja by Mr Ado Bako, Assistant Director of Information and Public Relations.

Pate said the government had activated precautionary measures following recent Ebola outbreaks in parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda to strengthen national health security.

He said surveillance systems had been reinforced across the country, while relevant agencies such as the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) and Port Health Services were closely monitoring developments.

According to him, the ministry is also collaborating with the World Health Organization and regional health authorities to ensure early detection and rapid response to any potential threat.

"While Nigeria currently has no



Prof. Pate

confirmed case of Ebola virus disease, the federal government is taking all necessary proactive measures to strengthen national preparedness, surveillance and coordination mechanisms," he said.

He added that ongoing measures included enhanced surveillance, improved monitoring activities nationwide and strengthened screening protocols at all points of

entry into the country.

Pate also said health declaration procedures had been reinforced in collaboration with Port Health Services to reduce the risk of importation of the disease into Nigeria.

He said that coordination with state ministries of health and other stakeholders had been intensified to ensure effective response mechanisms across all levels of government.

According to him, laboratory preparedness and diagnostic capacity had also been strengthened to enable prompt detection and confirmation of suspected cases.

The minister said infection prevention and control measures were being reinforced in health facilities, while public awareness campaigns and community engagement activities had also been stepped up.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Eko City Rumble Launches To Drive Basketball Growth

Culled:

A new basketball development initiative, Eko City Rumble, is set to tip off in Lagos as organisers move to expand opportunities for players while improving visibility, storytelling and data-driven development within African basketball, PUNCH Sports Extra reports.

The tournament, organised by tech entrepreneur and PGRaters founder Frank Osayi, is scheduled to take place on 5 and 6 June 2026 at the Northern Foreshore Estate Basketball Court in Chevron, Lagos Island.

It will feature four male teams and four female teams, alongside two veteran sides, as well as additional attractions including one-on-one contests, a shooting competition, and fan engagement activities.

It will mark the platform's first major basketball competition on the island, following previous events staged on the Lagos mainland.

Osayi said the project is designed to go beyond competition, focusing instead on player exposure, performance tracking and long-term development pathways for athletes.

"We want to give players a platform to compete, we want them to be seen, and we want them to be able to tell their stories through media," he said.

He added that the broader aim is to strengthen basketball culture in Nigeria while ensuring players receive recognition beyond their on-court performances.

"The tournament is bigger than basketball. It's more about inspiring the next generation and raising the standard of basketball culture and events in Nigeria as a whole," he said.

Osayi also stressed that the experience for players is central to the vision of the tournament, noting that every participant should feel valued throughout the competition.

"The key thing is that we want every player who steps on that court to feel like they matter," he said.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Stakeholder Seeks End To Nigeria's Drug Import Dependency



Henrietta Ukwu

Culled:

A leading global biopharmaceutical executive, Henrietta Ukwu, has called for Nigeria to urgently end its overwhelming dependence on imported medicines, describing the country's estimated 70 per

cent reliance on foreign drugs as both worrisome and unfortunate.

Speaking at the 29th Annual National Conference of the Association of Industrial Pharmacists of Nigeria in Ilorin, Kwara State, themed, 'Collaboration and Innovation to Build Local Solutions for

the Future of the Nigerian Pharmaceutical Industry,' Dr. Ukwu urged the federal government under president Bola Ahmed Tinubu to aggressively deepen support for local pharmaceutical manufacturing as a strategic pathway to national health security, economic prosperity, and industrial independence.

She stated that Nigeria cannot continue to rely on foreign nations for medicines, vaccines, and essential medical products if it truly seeks sovereignty in healthcare delivery.

She insisting that local manufacturing of pharmaceuticals, vaccines, and medical devices remains the surest route to medicine security and sustainable national development.

According to her, any nation that remains heavily dependent on imported healthcare products risks falling behind in the global economic and healthcare landscape.

Ukwu noted that Nigeria possesses abundant natural and human resources capable of driving a globally competitive pharmaceutical industry but lamented that these advantages remain largely underutilized.

"We have incredible expertise and all it takes to move the pharmaceutical industry forward, but we are not fully harnessing the natural resources Nigeria is endowed with. The Federal Government is making efforts and progress is being recorded, but there is still significant room for improvement," she stated.

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Obasanjo

Obasanjo Flags Off Lagos To World Expedition In Abeokuta

Culled: Former President Chief Olusegun Obasanjo will on Sunday 31st May 2026 personally flag off the Lagos to the World expedition at the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library, Abeokuta, Ogun State, starting 2.00 prompt.

Lagos to the World is the initiative of Nigerian entrepreneur and BMW enthusiast U. Erik Nwagwu, who lost both his mother and his sister to cancer, and who has dedicated the expedition to their memory and to the fight against the disease.

The Special Assistant on Media, Kehinde Akinyemi, confirmed in a

statement that Nwagwu's Lagos to the World expedition is "a solo overland circumnavigation of the globe in a Nigerian-plated 2008 BMW 535i — the first of its kind ever departing Nigeria — and has graciously received the blessing of the former President and elder statesman."

The expedition departs Abeokuta in three legs, crossing six continents, with a men's health and prostate cancer awareness mission running alongside every kilometre — bringing free prostate cancer screenings to roadside communities that formal health campaigns never reach.

"This mission is dedicated to my late

mother, Professor Helen Nwagwu, and my late sister, Mrs. Onyema Fern Eseka, both lost to cancer," said Nwagwu, who serves as Managing Director of Carbon Deficits Ltd and is the Driver and Founder of the Lagos to the World Expedition. He is also a Founding Member and Member of the Board of Trustees of BMW Club Nigeria.

The expedition has attracted significant institutional support ahead of its departure, including AXA Mansard Insurance as Official Insurance Partner, Zuri Health as Official Digital Healthcare Partner — conducting free prostate cancer

screenings in Lagos, Abeokuta and Accra — and Studio 24 as Official Photography and Multimedia Partner" Nwagwu said

He noted that former President Obasanjo's agreement to formally flag off the expedition means "his words will carry immeasurable weight for the mission and for every Nigerian who watches this moment unfold."

Nwagwu added that the former President will personally conduct a guided tour of the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library for assembled guests, including Foundation Patrons, BMW Club Nigeria members and invited dignitaries.

Find Full Story In The Link

Germany Deepens Development Collaboration With Nigeria

The Consul General of Germany in Lagos, Daniel Krull, has said Germany is seeking to deepen economic and development cooperation with Nigeria through stronger business partnerships, vocational training and private sector investments.

Krull spoke during German-Nigeria Business Day event in Lagos ahead of bilateral development cooperation negotiations scheduled in Abuja

between officials of both countries.

According to him, Germany provides development aid to Nigeria every two years through agreements negotiated by the ministries of both countries, noting that the latest round of talks would focus on expanding cooperation in critical sectors.

He said both countries could benefit from stronger partnerships in energy, infrastructure, manufacturing, health, construction, digitalisation and the

pharmaceutical industry.

Krull said German companies were already supporting skills development in Nigeria, citing Siemens Energy's investment in vocational training for Nigeria's energy sector. He explained that the initiative is matched with funding from the German government to help scale private sector-driven programmes to meet local needs.

He also highlighted efforts by SAP to

provide certified information technology training for one million Nigerian students, aimed at improving employability and supporting regional trade platforms across Africa.

According to him, certification and feedback systems have been integrated into the programme to monitor the success of the training, while SAP's global IT infrastructure could open significant employment

Find Full Story In The Link

DRIVING SCHOOLS AND SAFETY ALLIANCE AFRICA - DSSAA

DSSAA INITIATIVES AND CAUSES

1. African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP) - This will be an online Academy for the training of Driving School Instructors and Road Safety professionals.
2. Africa Road Transport Safety Summit and Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO) - The largest gathering of Researchers and Industry Leaders in Road Transport Safety featuring exhibitions of technology devices and Innovations.
3. Africa Safe School Volunteer Project (ASSVP) - A social responsibility project that members of DSSAA will get directly involved in their various countries which includes volunteering to control traffic and help Children cross the Road during school hours in schools, funding installation of STOP Road signs and marking of zebra crossings at school Intersections, as well as carrying out the training of children on Road Safety practices in schools.
4. Africa Road Safety Partnerships and Research board (ARSPARB)- A hub for the advancement of partnerships with development agencies, National Governments and corporations as well as a Research Faculty for Road Safety Research Projects.

About DSSAA

Driving Schools and Safety Alliance Africa - DSSAA is Africa's premier Professional Association of Driving School Owners, Instructors, Driver Assessors and Road Safety professionals.

It is registered in the Gambia and UK with National offices in all the Capital cities in Africa.

DSSAA aims to bring all the critical stakeholders together to build the capacity of Driving School operators and support Road Safety through advocacy, public education, lobbying, fund raising, training and certification.

We are the promoters of various Road Transport Safety initiatives and programmes among which are the African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP), Africa Road Transport Safety Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO), Africa Safe school volunteer project (ASSVP) and the Africa Road Safety Partnership and Research board (ARSPARB) domiciled in our Overseas Office in Bournemouth United Kingdom.

Membership is open to Road Safety advocates all over the world.

DSSAA

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



GRANTS

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

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

CAPACITY DEV.

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

NETWORKING

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

GOOD BUSINESS

PROFILE/LEVERAGE

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

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

OTHER BENEFITS

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

JOB FAIR

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

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