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## Why Auto Assembly Plants Are Dying In Nigeria-Expert ...Over 50 Plants Shut Down in 9 Years...Only 6 Currently Active - Page 3



L-R: Executive Director, Nigeria Automobile Manufacturers Association (NAMA), Mr. Remi Olaofe; Vice President, Dana Motors (Kia), Mr. Olu Tikolo; Representative of Chairman, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Assistant Commander General of Narcotics/Deputy Director, Operations & General Investigation, Gadzama Samuel Bashir at the maiden edition of the Nigeria Auto CEOs Forum, held at the Nicon Luxury hotel, Abuja. August 4, 2022



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# SAFETY

## We Offer Safe, Original Parts- Yutong, Kojo Motors

**K**ojo Motors and Yutong have successfully hosted customers, fleet operators and partners for the 2022 Service Marketing Campaign at the Marriot Hotel, Ikeja, Lagos.

The one-day event is part of the marketing drive of Kojo Motors and the Yutong manufacturers to reassure transporters and other users that it is an automotive brand that guarantees returns on investment.

In his speech, Chino Ogwumike, national sales manager of Kojo Motors Limited, told the audience that includes owners and distributors of the Yutong range of commercial buses, that the Yutong national service marketing campaign is being put together among others to take a look at many years of Kojo Motors market presence amid teething economic challenges.

While the one day service campaign lasted, guests were among other highlights, taken through the introduction of existing and new



Acting Corps Marshal, FRSC, DCM Dauda Biu and former Corps Marshal, Dr. Boboye Oyeyemi

range of Yutong models, improving the planning and quality of customer maintenance work and reduce the failure rate of customer vehicles so as

to improve the operation rate of the vehicles.

The programme also provided an opportunity for the audience to discuss on the importance of promoting dealer parts, consigned parts that have not been sold for a long time, as well as service spare parts.

At the event, presentations about

vehicles including natural gas vehicles (NGV) and electric vehicles (EV) was also highlighted by some of the facilitators including Chinedu Oguegbu, executive director, Kojo Motors Limited.

Guangxi Yuchai, one of the leading engine manufacturers also made presentations about their natural gas engines.

Yutong service programs including technical training, driver and personnel training, and Yutong genuine spare parts promotions were discussed extensively. Furthermore, the need for the local automotive market to transition to sustainable energy

### Sanwo-Olu's SA Charges LASTMA GM To Repackage Agency

**T**he newly appointed Special Adviser to the Governor on Transportation, Hon. Sola Giwa has tasked Officers of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) to bring back the glory days of the agency for the good of all and sundry.

Hon. Sola Giwa stated this at a roundtable with Heads of Departments and Directors of the enforcement agency held at the Secretariat, Alausa, Ikeja.

The Special Adviser who started his career as Senior Special Assistant on LASTMA in 2007 reminisced that LASTMA has seen better days as this was not the way things were in the foremost enforcement agency back in the days. He added that a lot of

things have to come back and urged Officers to brace up with the great ideas that will reposition and revitalize the Traffic Management Authority.

The General Manager, Lagos State Traffic Management Agency, Mr. Bolaji Oreagba while assuring the Special Adviser of the unstinting support of LASTMA Officers, also disclosed that the lack of inter-agency cooperation and collaboration has hampered the effectiveness and operations of the Agency in times past. The GM noted that the destruction of road furniture and street signages by vandals is another challenge that the agency is grappling with.

### Best FRSC Unit Commander

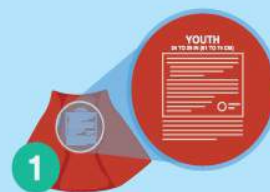
**O**sondu Ohaeri, an Assistant Corps Commander (ACC), and a ranking member of the Governing Council of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR), has bagged a meritorious award as the most outstanding Unit Commander in the entire corps nationwide.

He was given the award recently by then Corps Marshal, Dr. Boboye Oyeyemi, during the Corps Marshal's Strategic Session of the agency's high command which officers who excelled in various areas were honoured.

Ohaeri, who is presently the Unit Commander of the Lugbe Unit Command of the FRSC, was honoured in recognition of his outstanding performance in the area of routine patrols, rescue services, traffic control and prompt response to traffic-related matters along the Lugbe Airport road.

Aside the National Headquarters in Abuja, the FRSC operates a 12 zonal command structure, 37 sector commands, including the FCT, and 209 unit commands formations across the country.

### HOW TO PROPERLY FIT A LIFE JACKET



#### CHECK LIFE JACKET LABEL FOR THE APPROPRIATE WEIGHT OR CHEST SIZE.

The life jacket label will indicate the size and weight of the intended user. Make sure the wearer is within these ranges. Verify that the life jacket label states it is "Coast Guard approved."



#### PUT THE LIFE JACKET ON.

Inspect the life jacket for wear and tear. Warning signs include rips and missing or broken buckles or straps.



#### BUCKLE ALL STRAPS AND TIGHTEN OR ZIP UP ALL ZIPPERS.

Make sure all straps can be buckled and zippers zipped. Don't forget the crotch strap if there is one!



#### HAVE THE WEARER LIFT THEIR ARMS OVER HEAD AND GENTLY LIFT THEM BY THE TOP OF THE LIFE JACKET ARM OPENINGS.

If the jacket rides up above their ears, it's too big. If the straps or zippers don't close, the jacket is too small.



# NEWS

## Why Auto Assembly Plants Are Dying In Nigeria-Expert ...Over 50 Plants Shut Down in 9 Years...Only 6 Currently Active

By Frank Kintum

The number of auto assembly plants in Nigeria are rapidly decreasing due to a number of avoidable factors which a player in the space and auto expert has described as disturbing.

Kunle Jaiyesimi, Deputy Managing Director of CFAO Motors, recounted these factors recently at the 2022 Nigeria Auto Journalists Association (NAJA) capacity building programme held in Ikeja, Lagos.

According to the auto boss, who doubles as the Chairman of the Auto group of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the current operating environment in the auto sector, makes it more profitable to import Fully Built Up vehicles than engage in local Complete Knock Down (CKD) or Semi-Knock Down (SKD) assembling.

He stated that some of the factors militating against the growth of the industry include refusal of "Presidential assent to the NAIDP Bill since the commencement of the Auto Policy or assembly scheme of the Federal Government since 2014. "Lack of incentives to those that



invested billions in the automobile assembly project; and non-availability of vehicle finance scheme despite the collection of over N180 billion levies on Fully Built vehicles by the Nigeria Customs Service on behalf of the NADDC (National Automotive Design and

Development Council)/FG (Federal Government).

Other factors identified include - frequent upgrade of imported vehicles (SKD/ CKD) values by the Nigeria Customs Service; and delay in vehicles/containers clearing process as a result of bottlenecks at

the ports due to activities of various government agencies at the ports".

Jaiyesimi also listed non provision of forex by the CBN (Central Bank of Nigeria) for settlement of our L/Cs and reduction of duty payable for non-assemblers and used vehicle importers as other contributory factors.

## NADDC's Property, Equipment Waste Away Nation wide- Says Ex-Boss

Several billions of naira invested by the Federal Government in acquiring massive land and equipment for automotive projects may have gone down the drain, a former Acting Director General of the National Automotive Design and Development Council, Mr Luqman Mamudu, has said.

He stated this in Abuja, where chief executive officers of auto companies and other stakeholders called for a review of Finance Act making it difficult for local auto assemblers to compete with sellers of fully built imported vehicles.

They spoke at Auto CEOs Forum, an interactive session involving major players, Ministry of Industry Trade and Investment, heads of relevant government agencies such as Nigeria Customs Service, Bureau of Public Procurement and National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, National Bureau of Statistics and National Automotive Design and Development Council.

Mamudu said the FG invested billions of naira to acquire the huge land and import needed equipment for industrial clusters in six major cities across the country to give the

auto policy a sound footing.

For instance, he said in Ikorodu, Lagos State, while about N1bn was spent to bring in test equipment for a facility to test vehicles emission level, the government paid N300m for the land housing the test centre.

Mamudu however lamented that nothing was currently happening the Lagos centre and other places.

He debunked the insinuation the NADDC did not consult widely before the auto policy was put together, adding that for about six months the agency held meetings and with other agencies, relevant groups and auto players on the matter.

He gave an overview of the policy, its objectives using a global template and the requirements to actualise the project such as incentives to attract investors/OEMs, acceptable credit facility for vehicle assemblers and buyers and anti-smuggling programme.

He said, "There is no need to change the NAIDP. We only need. We need to review time taken for renewal of yearly licence. It doesn't have to take five months.

The Comptroller General of NCS, Col. Hameed Ali, represented by Controller Musa Mba, said the

agency was carried along in formulating the policy.

According to him, they only implement the duty as passed onto the agency.

Chairman of National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Brig Gen Buba Marwa, who spoke through Mr. Gadzama Bashir, accused some auto importers of bringing in hard drugs.

Indeed, he said some import cars from Canada concealed with Colorado, a variant of cannabis sativa (Indian hemp).

He called for the cooperation of auto players to rid the country of banned substance.

Auto CEOs who spoke through Olutobi Ajayi of Nord Motors, Taiwo Shittu of Lanre Shittu Motors, and Deputy Managing Director, CFAO Motors, Kunke Jaiyesinmi, the current import duty of 10 per cent import duty for fully built units (vehicles) and 10 per cent for Semi-Knocked Down vehicles was discouraging local assembly of vehicles.

There is no way local assembly plants can compete with FBU vehicle importers at 10 per cent duty. We buy diesel, pay workers, among other running cost but they don't do," said Ajayi. They called for a review of the Finance Act.

## Why We Support Journalists Training - Stallion Motors

Stallion Motors Limited, Nigeria's leading automobile assembler, has described its support for the just concluded Nigeria Auto Journalists' Annual Training Workshop as an initiative aimed at the development of the nation's economy via the auto industry.

In a statement released after the 2022

annual training programme, Stallion commended the Nigeria Auto Journalists Association (NAJA) for the training initiative, which it says would enhance the standard of media reportage of the auto sector and ultimately impact positively on the automobile manufacturing and sales in Nigeria.

# EDITORIAL

## No To Nationwide Okada Ban

The federal government has said it is considering a nationwide ban on commercial motorcycles, popularly known as okada, as well as mining activities in a bid to stem the rising insecurity across the country.

Speaking through the Attorney-General of the federation, Abubakar Malami, it was revealed that the government is considering several approaches for containing insecurity.

According to the Minister, motorcycles provide the means of transportation for terrorists while mining is their source of funds for the purchase of arms.

“Placing a ban on the use of motorcycles and mining activities will cut the supply of logistics to the terrorists. This will be done in the national interest.

“We are Nigerians because Nigeria as a country exists and any issue that will translate into a threat to national security or the corporate existence of the country requires certain sacrifices.

“So, regardless of the means that is being considered for the possible banning, this is a sacrifice that we see as what will help address the security challenges and I think no sacrifice is too big as far as that issue is concerned.

“Above all, if you are talking of banning motorcycles, for example, I think the number of people using these motorcycles is not up to 20 percent of the Nigerian population.

“So if that percentage is called to make a sacrifice that is all-pervading or affecting over 200 million Nigerians, I think that sacrifice is not too much and is worthy of being

considered.”

However, they have been mixed reactions to the Minister's call.

Pan-Yoruba socio-political organisation, Afenifere has kicked against the federal government pronouncement. National Publicity Secretary of the group, Mr. Jare Ajayi, said, “the prescription is fatally wrong!

“Also, to suppose that banning these activities would put a stop to terrorism is not only a wishful thinking, it amounts to an induced self-delusion that can only complicate the ailment that one is suffering from. Pursuing that line is leaving the substance to chase the shadow,” he added.

Also, motorcycle operators popularly called Okada have warned that the proposed ban of commercial motorcycles as part of measures to tackle

security challenges in the country will not only make 40 million Nigerians jobless but also create the worst monster behind terrorism.

The Okada operators under the aegis of the Amalgamated Commercial Tricycle and Motorcycle Owners, Repairs and Riders Association of Nigeria (ACOMORAN) gave the warning recently in Abuja.

Briefing journalists, the National President of ACOMORAN, Samsudeen Apelogun, advised the federal government to jettison the idea of a blanket ban on their operations and re-jig the security architecture of the country.

We also think that the minister is not justified by proposing a nationwide ban on motorcycles. If at all there should be a ban, it has to be systematic, gradual and must involve all relevant stakeholders.

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# TYRE WATCH








## Parts Of A Tyre

It's important to understand how tyres work so that you can adequately assess whether your tyres are safe to drive. Understanding the different parts of a tyre will also help you when it comes to speaking to mechanics, as you can use the correct terms to locate the problem. Tyre safety is an incredibly important factor when it comes to running your car, so knowing your tyres can help you to stop any disasters before they occur.

### Inner liner

The inner liner of a tyre is made from a rubber sheet that results in low air permeability. This helps the tyre to hold high pressure air inside, whilst also minimising the amount of air that is diffused through the rubber structure.

### Tyre belts

These are steel belts made from woven wire sheets, placed around the surface area of the tyre to provide rigidity and reinforce its strength. Sometimes, manufacturers add a Kevlar cord, making sure the tyre is even stronger in order to increase durability and make the tyre puncture resistant.

### Tyre sipes

Sipes are small grooves that are cut across larger parts of the tread. It will often look like a small slit in the tyre's tread block, and it will create an additional tread surface area for increased grip in wet, icy and snowy conditions.

### Tyre tread

Tyre treads often have different patterns. As the only area where the tyre makes contact with the road, the tyre tread will provide grip and cushioning for the car, depending on the design and compound selected. Because of this, the tyre tread is one of the most important safety features on the car this why winter tyres will usually have much deeper and wider tread than normal tyres.

### Tyre grooves

Grooves are part of the tyre's tread. Deeper than sipes, tyre grooves act to disperse water, ice, snow and mud, ensuring that a car can move safely on the roads in all conditions. This expels water from beneath the tyre to prevent aquaplaning.





### Tyre shoulder

The shoulder of the tyre offers support and protection to the sidewall and tread of the tyre, and as one of the thickest parts of the tyre, it allows tyres to hold their form whilst drivers take the vehicle around corners and turns.

### Tyre sidewall

The sidewall is one of the most commonly known components of a

tyre. It has extra thick rubber running from the bead to the tread, to make the tyre laterally stable. This is also where manufacturers put information about the tyre, so it is a good point of reference when looking for the tyre pressure or what size tyre to buy.

### Tyre ply

The tyre's skeleton is made up of layers of fabric, often called the ply.

The fabric's cord fibres are woven together and coated with rubber, and the ply is placed above the inner lining of the tyre, strengthening the structure.

### Beads

Ultra-strong steel coated rubbers are called the beads and form an airtight seal between the tyre and the wheel rim.

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# ENERGY

## TotalEnergies, Firm Promoter of Nigerian Content Development- NCDMB

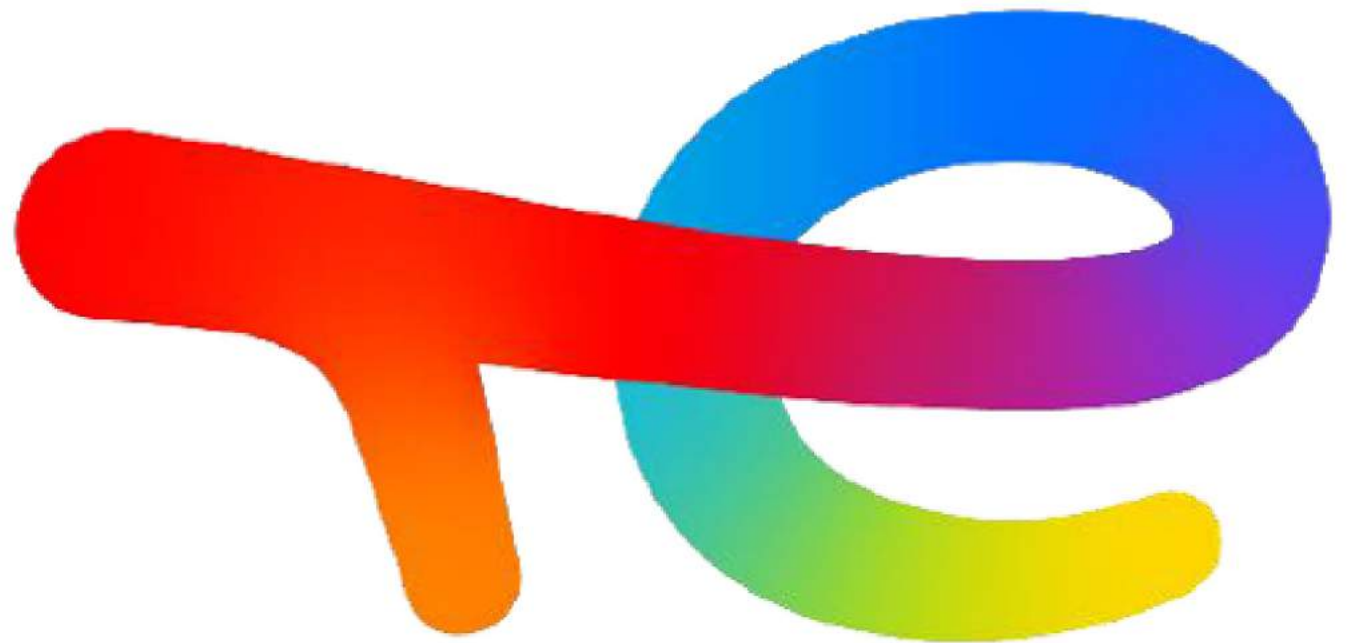
French oil giant, TotalEnergies Limited, has been identified by the Nigerian Content Development & Monitoring Board (NCDMB), as a firm supporter of Nigerian content development. Executive Secretary, NCDMB, Simbi Wabote, affirmed the industry rating recently at the Government Technical College (GCT) Port Harcourt, Rivers state where TotalEnergies did groundbreaking for construction of technical workshop, a 200-bed hostel, and a 25-blocks classroom in furtherance of its corporate social responsibility (CSR).

Wabote, represented by NCDMB Director of Planning, Research and Statistics, Patrick Obah, noted that, "Where other operators are divesting Nigeria, Total has continued to invest in Nigeria and achieving great strides in Nigerian Content.

"It is on the basis of this guideline that TotalEnergies got approval for the Human Capital Development plan of the Ikike Project, upon which she committed to constructing, equipping, and handing over the Mechanical Workshop, 25 classroom block and a modern hostel accommodation block for 200 students at the GCT.

"We have always wanted Nigeria to innovate the development world to empower our youths to explore

hor  
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# TotalEnergies

beyond their own, develop their mental resilience and discover the bonds of mutuality that cut across differences of culture, ethnicity, religion, or background. "Through this gesture, TotalEnergies Ltd, has once again demonstrated that

you remain the staunchest supporter of Nigerian Content Development and of the spirit behind its concept." Managing Director, TotalEnergies, Mike Sangster, represented by TotalEnergies' Deputy Managing Director, JV Asset, Mr Guillaume

Dulout, stated that, "The projects are designed to upgrade standard of infrastructure in the school, create good learning atmosphere, improve standard of living for the students and equip vocational students with life skills".

## NGA Tasks FG To Maximise Gas Potentials

President of the Nigerian Gas Association (NGA), Ed Ubong has asked the Federal Government to turn to gas to power daily operations.

Expressing optimism about the growing adoption of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) as an alternative source of energy nationally, he said there is progress in deepening gas adoption.

Ubong made this observation during a panel session themed: "Harnessing Opportunities in the Nigerian Gas Sector" at the Nigerian Oil & Gas Conference in Abuja.

He acknowledged that despite the gas scarcity that the country is currently experiencing, progress is being made, adding that by working on the decade of gas' holistic action plan involving all the critical stakeholders in the country, the narrative will change, and the investment made by all will yield dividends.

Ubong said: "We are making progress in deepening gas consumption across the country. The private stakeholders are doing their

part as evidenced in the massive projects being commissioned. FG is also encouraging the adoption of gas as demonstrated in the launch of 20

gas-powered buses by the Head of the Civil Service to convey civil servants from their abodes to their offices in Abuja. There are still CNG

input pricing concerns raised by CNG operators to enable the sector which need to be addressed urgently".

## Pipeline Vandalism: MNDA Close Ties With PAP -Umana

By Ignatius Ushie

Minister of Niger Delta Affairs (MNDA), Umana Okon Umana has advocated for closer ties with the Presidential Amnesty Programme (PAP) to ensure that the Ministry and the agency continue to work with various institutions to address the issue of oil theft, pipeline vandalization and sustain peace in

the region. This was contained in a statement made available to Transport Day in Abuja.

Umana made this assertion when the Presidential Amnesty Programme (PAP), Interim Administrator, Col. Dixon Milland Dikio (Rtd), paid him a courtesy visit in Abuja.

Earlier in his address, Interim Administrator, PAP, Col. Dixon Milland Dikio (Rtd), explained that

the programme by former President, Late Musa Yar'adu was a soft approach towards addressing issues affecting the Niger Delta region. It was designed to disarm, demobilize and reintegrate ex-agitators, adding that the visit is to explore area of support and assistance from the Ministry, to establish vertical and horizontal relationship to ameliorate the problems of the region.

## Nigeria Power Generation Hits 4,000mw

Power generation on the national grid has crossed 4,000 megawatts as the Federal Government announced that it had commenced the construction of transmission lines and substations to add 204MW to the grid. This feat

was achieved August 10, 2022.

Data obtained from the Federal Ministry of Power in Abuja showed that the grid recorded an off-peak power generation of 3,231.6MW the preceding day being Tuesday, while the peak generation on same day was

put at 3,993.5MW.

This eventually crossed 4,000MW August 10, as it hit 4,045.1MW at 6am same day, indicating a 3.97 per cent increase or 154.6MW, while the frequency of the grid was 49.19 Hertz.

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# AVIATION

## St. Matthew-Daniel, Jaiyesimi Join SAHCO Board

**S**kyway Aviation Handling Company (SAHCO) PLC has appointed two new non-Executive Directors, this was announced during the company's 12th Annual General Meeting (AGM) held at Marriott Hotel, Ikeja, Lagos.

Laila Jean St. Matthew-Daniel and Dr. Bukola Bello Jaiyesimi were appointed to replace Barrister Chike Ogeah and Mr. Ariyo Olutoye who resigned their appointments in January, 2022.

Laila Jean St. Matthew-Daniel started her schooling at Our Lady of Apostles in Lagos, she went on to St Louis Grammar School, Ibadan, for her "O" Levels, and then Queens College, for her 'A' Levels, before going to the United Kingdom (UK) for graduate studies at the Cripplegate Institute/London

Guildhall University. She began her career in the corporate world in the UK, and later Nigeria, before boldly taking the entrepreneurial step in 1983, by opening one of the 'first' indigenous Furniture Manufacturing Company, during the 1980's as a result of Government's ban on the importation of furniture.

As one of the premier female furniture manufacturers in the early 80's to early 90's, she initialized private training programmes for artisans in the furniture industry to boost Governments' National Directorate of Employment's

empowerment efforts, and pioneered seminars for public enlightenment on relationship between stress and furniture ergonomics apart from winning various awards for unique designs. She coordinated interior fix-outs from conceptualisation, implementation, FF&E & execution of residential, Corporate & hotel projects and has won various awards for unique designs.

Dr. Bukola Bello Jaiyesimi Is an avowed Pan-Africanist, lobbyist, developmental and legacy strategist with a passion for mankind and institutional development. She

started her academic journey in 1982 at St Luke's Model School, Lokoja, she proceeded to Command Secondary School, Kaduna in 1988.

Dr. Bukola Bello Jaiyesimi gained admission into the University of Abuja where she bagged a Diploma in Banking and Finance in 1995.

She relocated to study in Canada in 1998 and proceeded to Queens School of Business, Ontario, Canada and graduated with a BSC in Marketing in 2001. She went further to London School of Business and Finance, UK and she graduated with MBA in Entrepreneurship at The

Institute of Transformative Thoughts and Learning Doctoral Research Centre (ITTL-DRC). She is also a recipient of the following; Metropolitan Institute of Business and Management - Special Executive Masters in International Business Law (LLM)-2013, CGUI, Boston, Massachusetts - Doctoral Research 2017, Chartered Institute of Public Relations, United Kingdom - Diploma in Public Relations 2018.

### NiMet Promotes 19 Officers To Managerial Cadre, Others

By Ignatius Ushie

**T**he Nigerian Meteorological Agency, recently released the results of the 2022 promotion examination. This was contained in a statement signed by Muntari Yusuf Ibrahim, GM/PR of the agency and made available to Transport Day in Abuja.

According to the statement, the promotion follows the successful conduct and completion of the 2022 promotion examination held on the 19th and 30th of March, 2022 respectively, across the six (6) geopolitical zones of the country and the subsequent approval by the Honourable Minister of Aviation, Senator Hadi Sirika through a letter FMA/NiMet/4551/T/170 regarding same.



Mrs Laila St. Matthew Daniel



Dr Bukola Bello Jaiyesinmi

## Air Peace Suspends Flight Service To Johannesburg

**H**igh cost and scarcity of aviation fuel, known as Jet A1, has forced Air Peace to suspend its Lagos-Johannesburg flight operations.

The airline explained in a statement recently that due to the turbulent times the aviation industry was

experiencing with Jet A1 fuel increases, scarcity of forex and a delay in visa issuance for South African travel passengers, it had to stop the service..

"Please be advised that the Johannesburg flight operation has been suspended effective August

22nd and will remain so until further notice.

"Passengers with future flight itineraries who wish to join non-affected operational flights should be accommodated at no additional cost. Passengers seeking refunds may also apply," the airline said.

## Ambassador Calls For Removal Of Travel Restrictions

**N**igerian Ambassador to the Peoples' Republic of China, His Excellency Baba Ahmad Jidda, has called for the removal of travel restriction on Nigerians travelling to China. The Envoy who made this call during

a courtesy visit to Air Peace headquarters in Lagos, commended the flagship carrier for its successful launch of commercial flights to Guangzhou-China, adding that there was more to be done to edge maximum benefits.

He noted that it took about four years of negotiation to get Air Peace to launch flights into China.

Chairman of Air Peace, Allen Onyema, commended the Ambassador's solidarity, adding that the country has been supportive.



# AVIATION

## Six Tips To Prevent Lost Luggage At The Airport



### 1. Fly with distinctive luggage

Avoid checking in non-descript suitcases and try not to travel with a black one. While it's a classic colour and hides wear and tear, it's also the most common, meaning other travelers or ground staff are more likely to mistake it for someone else's case.

If your baggage does go missing, you'll have to fill in a form describing what it looks like. Writing "black medium-sized suitcase" is not going to help narrow things down. Opt for something brighter and distinctive you can easily describe if required.

It also pays to avoid irregularly shaped baggage, which doesn't fit easily on the carousel, as well as backpacks with lots of loose straps, which could get caught on something as it is moved around.

### 2. Use an Apple AirTag or another tracking device

Apple's AirTag and similar Bluetooth tracking devices can help travelers keep track of their bags.

Priced around \$30, Apple's AirTags are the newest way to help track luggage when flying, with the Bluetooth devices easily slipped into any bag.

If your luggage goes missing, use your iPhone to decipher its location. If you're close enough, you'll be able to get precise directions to its location, which you can also share with ground staff to help them find it. If you're further away, you'll still be able to see where your luggage is. The device is tracked anytime it pings near a nearby Apple device, which can be anyone's iPhone or

iPad. If it's somewhere with no devices nearby, you'll see the last location so you'll know which country or airport it was last spotted in, all important information that can help you recover your stuff.

If you don't use an iPhone, there are similar devices available for Android smartphones such as Samsung's SmartTag.

### 3. Remove old baggage tags

Baggage tags from old flights should always be removed to avoid confusion when luggage is being loaded onto a plane. These tags contain critical information such as destination airport codes, codes for connecting airports and a bar code that's used for real-time tracking information.

Overworked baggage handlers could

the brighter, the better on your bag in case the airline's gets damaged. On the luggage tag, write your name, address at your destination, email and a phone number where you can be reached while travelling.

### 4. Book direct flights and avoid tight layovers

Taking a direct, non-stop flight reduces the chances of your bag going missing.

According to ClaimCompass, a platform helping people seek compensation from airlines for disrupted travel, loading errors account for about 19 per cent of delayed bags.

Itineraries including connections increase the likelihood of luggage being delayed or lost as they invite more opportunities for human or

you'll need time to get to the baggage carousel, wait for your luggage and then take it to the check-in desk where there will likely be queues.

### 5. Sharing is caring

If you're travelling with others, consider putting half of your stuff into their bag and vice versa.

This summer, it pays to subscribe to the "what if" school of thought, which means being prepared to still enjoy your trip if your bag doesn't arrive. Some forward planning can make this easier.

If you're travelling with others, consider putting half of your stuff into their bag and vice versa. That way, if one bag goes missing, you'll each still have some of your belongings with you.

Solo travellers need to make the most of carry-on allowances. Pack enough clothes for the first day or two and essentials like hairbrushes, toothbrushes and phone chargers just be sure to keep liquids under the 100ml mark to avoid any issues at security.

### 6. Consider travel insurance

Travellers should research travel insurance options which could help if luggage goes missing.

Many insurance policies will reimburse for emergency expenses if you arrive in a destination with no luggage and need to buy essentials. Others will also pay if bags arrive damaged, or don't arrive at all.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/travel/news/2022/07/22/lost-luggage-at-the-airport-six-tips-to-follow-from-airtags-to-insurance/>

*“If you're travelling with others, consider putting half of your stuff into their bag and vice versa. That way, if one bag goes missing, you'll each still have some of your belongings with you.”*

easily end up loading your bag on a flight going elsewhere if there's conflicting information on the tags on your bag.

Make sure you have your own tag

technical error.

If a connection is necessary, give yourself and your bag plenty of time. If you're collecting the bag yourself,

# AUTO

By Kunle Jaiyesimi

## Challenges Of Doing Business Among Auto Assemblers In Nigeria



### Points of discussion

No Presidential assent to the NAIDP Bill since the commencement of the Auto Policy or assembly scheme of the Federal Government since 2014.

Lack of incentive to those that invested billions in the automobile assembly project.

Non-availability of vehicle finance scheme despite the collection of over N180 billion levies on Fully Built vehicles by the Nigeria Customs Service on behalf of the NADDC/FG.

Frequent upgrade of imported vehicles (SKD/CKD) values by the Nigeria Customs Service.

Delay in vehicles/containers clearing process as a result of bottlenecks at the Ports due to activities of various Government agencies at the Port.

Non provision of forex by the CBN for settlement of our L/Cs.

Reduction of duty payable for non-assemblers and used vehicle importers.

### Introduction:

With a population of over 115 million people, one can adjudge Nigeria as a country with huge potential for the Automotive Industry. In the 70s and 80s, Government partnership and patronage with these Auto Assembling Companies: Peugeot Automobile Nigeria (PAN) in Kaduna, Volkswagen of Nigeria (VON) in Lagos, Anambra Motor Manufacturing Company (ANAMMCO) in Enugu, Steyr Nigeria Limited in Bauchi, National Truck Manufacturers in Kano and Leyland Nigeria Limited in Ibadan contributed immensely to the economic development of Nigeria and the non-oil revenue of the Federal Government. However, the Oil Glut that caused the fall in Oil prices from \$27 to \$10 specifically in 1986 sent the early Auto Assemblers mentioned above into moribund as Nigeria went into recession. The funds from

Agriculture and other sectors could not keep them afloat. The economic downturn and the massive depreciation of the Naira to U.S Dollars and other major currencies of the world resulted in a surge in the importation of used vehicles (popularly called Tokunbo - as it's affordable for Nigerians, considering the continual inflation in the country) and Fully Built vehicles, leaving the very few Assemblers in existence struggling for survival with no incentive scheme or policy to protect and guide them. This worries birthed the National Automotive Industry Development Plan (NAIDP) in 2014. The objective of the Auto Policy is to discourage the importation of Fully Built vehicles into the country, encourage local Assemblers to maximize their potentials, generate employment, boost skills and manpower, instill research development, increase the nation's GDP and make Nigeria an automotive hub in West Africa and Africa in general. According to the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC), 28 companies are currently assembling in Nigeria out of the 54 that registered for assembling, and out of the 408,870 units capacity per annum, only 8,473 (2%) have so far been achieved.

No Presidential assent to the NAIDP Bill since the commencement of the Auto Policy or Assembly Scheme of the FG since 2014:

The Goodluck Jonathan administration introduced the National Automotive Industry Development Plan (NAIDP) Bill in 2014 and less than a year to the Eight year-tenure of the Muhammadu Buhari administration, the bill is yet to see the light of the day in terms of legislation and accent to the final draft by the President.

At the inauguration of the \$7 million Toyota Assembly Plant with 1,330 units capacity per annum in Ghana in June 2021, the President John

Akufo-Addo said: "Government attaches great importance to the development of the automobile industry in Ghana" He also stated that: "By assembling and ultimately producing cars in Ghana, the importation of second hand used cars in Ghana will be reduced and at the same time, the export of made in Ghana cars to other African markets will earn our nation the much needed foreign exchange" (Source: The Cable June 29 2021). This and more are the aim of the Nigerian Auto Policy. Players like Toyota, Volkswagen, Nissan, Sinotruck and Katanka (indigenous) have set up assembly plants in Ghana and others like KIA and Hyundai are planning to join them pretty soon. Nigeria already has some good number of Assemblers and should do all it takes to keep them, boost their confidence and attract more investors. Reiterating my statement about the NAIDP Bill a couple of years ago, the Bill should be critically reviewed with the involvement of key players in the industry (as it was only being drafted by Civil Servants and non-players in the Industry) and signed into law. The Government should also consider tackling insurgency which has constrained Assemblers to some clustered spots and limiting the expansion of their sales, after-sales and services to other parts of the country, address the issue of power supply and manufacture of car accessories and development of local content which are the major reasons why a country like Ghana is recently becoming the attraction to Auto Investors and Assemblers in the West African Sub Region at the expense of Nigeria.

Lack of incentive to those that invested billions in the automobile assembly project:

The provision of juicy financial loans with single-digit interest rate for Auto Assemblers should be provided by the Government to curb the problem of inadequate

capitalization and funding. Granting Tax Breaks to Assemblers in their first few years of establishment by the Government can also serve as a good incentive measure. We have seen the enthusiasm and support of the past Government and the present Government with regards to public appearance and support of local assemblers, but this should be done holistically to benefit all the Local Assemblers. The adoption of Innoson by the Anambra State Government as its official vehicle in March 2022, is a milestone in the Industry and this is what the Federal and other State Governments should emulate.

According to the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Godwin Emefiele, during the introduction of Produce, Add Value and Export (PAVE) to boost export and encourage local production: "To solve the immediate and long-term economic challenges of the country, we needed to create an enabling environment with appropriate incentives to empower innovative entrepreneurs to drive growth and development". This statement shows clearly that Auto Assemblers in Nigeria need to be Incentivized.

There should be revitalization and incentivization of the auxiliary companies (Plastics/ Rubber/ Foam/glass) too since they produce complementary components/ parts that are used in the production of vehicles. This will salvage local assemblers from importation of spare parts. Over \$10 billion (about N5 trillion) is being lost yearly in Nigeria to large scale importation of Fully Built vehicles and allied components used for local assembling. Re-emphasizing my viewpoint about a year ago, on the deplorable state of Petrochemical and Steel firms; the demise of Ajaokuta Steel Company, Aladja Steel Rolling Mills and departure of the tyre manufacturers, Dunlop and Michelin and other parts and components manufacturers like batteries, belts and windscreens are big setbacks to the sustenance and

# AUTO

development of the Automotive Industry in Nigeria.

## **Non provision of forex by the CBN for settlement of our Letters of Credit:**

The failure of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to provide forex for Auto Assemblers to settle their Letters of Credits (L/Cs) slow down their businesses and puts additional pressure and cost on them even as Auto Assemblers are already overwhelmed by epileptic power supply, high cost of electricity tariff, and scarcity cum hike in the prices of fuel, diesel and gas amongst others weighing down their businesses. The CBN affirmed to this in the Communiqué No 143 of The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of July stating that “considerable rise in core inflation resulted largely from the rising cost of production due to high energy prices associated with the persistent disruptions to power supply, hike in electricity tariff, continued scarcity of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS), and rising price of Automotive Gas Oil (AGO)”. The CBN is expected to sustain efforts at enhancing efficiency, liquidity and transparency in the foreign exchange market that would give special considerations to Auto Assemblers and other manufacturers via the best favourable windows to settle timely, their Letters of Credit (L/Cs) and ensure it's carried to the latter by instructing Banks to submit their L/Cs from them for verification and audit. The intents behind the establishment of the Investors' and Exporters' FX Window on April 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 by the CBN is meant to be a plus for Auto Assemblers. However, the establishment of the I & E FX Window and the claim in Q1 2022 by the CBN about the stability of the naira at the I & E Window at its 32<sup>nd</sup> Seminar tagged: “Exchange Rate Management and Economic Diversification in Nigeria: The 'PAVE' Option,” are yet to yield the desired results as Assemblers still battle to source for foreign exchange amidst the depreciating value of the naira, causing instability in prices.

## **Non-availability of vehicle finance scheme despite the collection of over N180 billion levies on Fully Built vehicles by the Nigeria Customs Service on behalf of the NADDC/FG:**

It is one thing to produce a vehicle and it is another to create an enabling environment to sell it. Local Auto Assemblers are in dire need of schemes that would make Nigerians patronize them. The rate of inflation in Nigeria is very high, thus, the ability of an average Nigerian to purchase a new vehicle is

considerably low. This underscores the need for Vehicle Finance Scheme that would enable Nigerians own new vehicles, thereby discouraging the use of imported used ones. But unfortunately, despite the collection of over N180 billion as levies by the Nigeria Customs Service, the auto Industry is still yet to witness any proper vehicle finance scheme.

In May this year, The National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC) through its DG, Jelani Aliyu announced a N200 billion vehicle financing scheme to enable Nigerians own brand new vehicles at ease. He said that the council was discussing with the Central Bank of Nigeria, Jaiz, Wema and Zenith Banks to provide a single-digit auto financing which will allow Nigerians take a brand new vehicle home and pay over 4, 5 or 6 years. This will be a welcome development if only it can come to fruition as it would make Nigerians patronize made-in-Nigeria vehicles. The worry is that several of such promises by the government have been announced without a latter follow up and implementation.

## **Frequent upgrade of imported vehicles (SKD/ CKD) values by the Nigeria Customs Service:**

The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) outrightly believes in the upgrade (increase) of the value of imported Semi-Knocked Down or Completely Knocked Down vehicles year by year, considering just model change. This process is faulty as the manufacturer may not have upgraded the vehicle models or might have only done a minor upgrade that actually does not affect all parts of a vehicle. Most manufacturers carry out full model change between 4-5. This trend should be discontinued as it discourages Auto Assemblers and mars the objectives of the Auto Policy.

## **Delay in vehicles/ containers clearing process as a result of bottlenecks at the Ports due to activities of various Government agencies at the Port:**

The bottlenecks at the Ports by the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) and

other Government agencies is a hinderance for Assemblers. For instance, after the issuance of the Pre-Arrival Assessment Report (PAAR) and the inspection and certification by the Valuation unit, products can still be impeded by any of these units: Gate/ Releasing/ Customs Police/ Strike Force, discrediting the PAAR that had already been certified after thorough inspection of the vehicles. One can be sent back to any of the units from which one has already been cleared. Many at times, even after the bureaucracies by the NCS and other Government agencies at the Ports, the Federal Operations Units (FOU) are still there to cause further delay on the highway en route warehouses in spite of all the clearing documents from the Ports. The poor state of the roads to & fro the seaports and the gridlocks, especially that of Apapa is another hell process for Assemblers. It was reported that Nigerians lost about N90 billion in 2020 due to bottlenecks at the Apapa Seaport.

In Q2 2021, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) reported that, majority of the commodity exported out of Nigeria were transported via water, which accounted for N5,033.37billion representing 99.09%, followed by Air transport that contributed N31.71billion representing 0.62% and Road transport valued at N14.36billion representing 0.28%. Similarly for imports, goods brought into the country via water transport accounted for N6,508.63billion or 93.65% of the value of total imports. Followed by Air at N359.70billion or 5.18% and Road N81.87billion or 1.18%. With these figures, the need for removing unnecessary bureaucracies at the Ports cannot be overemphasized.

To ease congestion and curb extortion, the then Finance Minister, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala in 2012 cut the number of government agencies allowed to inspect cargo at Lagos Ports “AFRICA BUSINESS: Lagos Port Still a Bottleneck for Africa's Top Economy” (Source: The Reuters April 27th, 2015). The NCS and other Government agencies' activities at the Ports are tardy and repetitive.

Leaving behind the manual processes and automating them wholly would remove the bottlenecks which lead to demurrage and loss of sales for Auto Assemblers.

## **Reduction of duty payable for non-assemblers and used vehicle importers:**

The Automotive Policy introduced by the Federal Government was targeted at discouraging the importation of Fully Built vehicles and encouraging local manufacturing. The policy allows local assemblers to import Completely-Knocked-Down (CKD) vehicles at zero per cent duty, and Semi-Knocked-Down (SKD) vehicles at 5 per cent duty, while importers pay a 70 per cent (35% on duty and 35% as Levy) on Fully Built (FB) vehicles (new and used). According to reports released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Nigeria recorded a total sum of N1.28 trillion as the value of “used vehicles” (popularly known as Tokunbo) and motorcycles imported in one year (Q3 2019 Q2 2020), compared to N899 billion recorded in the corresponding period (Q3 2018 Q2 2019), implying an increase of 42%. This underscores the importance and urgency of signing the Auto Policy into law to restore investors confidence. The policy somersault of the Government is the reduction of import duty from 35% to 10% and applying the same on SKDs and FBs commercial vehicles (Buses and Trucks). This flaws the fundamental objective of the Automotive policy which is to discourage the importation of Fully Built vehicles. This is more appalling, considering the fact that Assemblers in the country today are trying to maximize their potentials in the SKD operations and not in the CKD as it should be. No investor would establish an Auto Assembly Plant in a country where the cost of importing a already built vehicle is cheaper than the cost of producing a new vehicle.

## **Conclusion:**

The urgency to have the National Automotive Industry Development Plan (NAIDP) Bill critically reviewed and signed into law cannot be overemphasized. The unfortunate thing is that while other nations are making policies that would shape their Auto Industry from 2025 - 2050, we are still lagging behind discussing what would have been settled almost one decade ago.

*Jaiyesimi is the Chairman Auto Group of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce & Industry.*

*“This is more appalling, considering the fact that Assemblers in the country today are trying to maximize their potentials in the SKD operations and not in the CKD as it should be.”*

# UNIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, INSTITUTES

## We Saw Hell During Apapa Gridlock- AMATO



Minister of Transport, Muazu Sambo

The Association of Maritime Truck Owners AMATO, is recounting its ordeal during the dark days of Apapa gridlock under the chaotic manual truck management system supervised by the Presidential Taskforce, saying its members were made to pay between N150, 000 and N250, 000 per truck in order to access the ports to pick or drop consignments. This is coming about 18 months after

the introduction of the Electronic Truck Call-Up System codenamed 'ETO' by the Nigerian Ports Authority, which came on stream on February 27, 2021. In addition to curbing the worsening gridlock in Apapa, the new system has also reduced the cost of operation for the truckers.

Speaking recently in Lagos,

Secretary of AMATO, Sanni Mohammed Bala, noted that as against the N250, 000 spent by members then largely due to the extortion by operatives of the Presidential Taskforce headed by a former Lagos State Commissioner for Transport, Kayode Opeifa, the truckers now spend less than N30, 000 under the ETO regime.

## Railway Workers Call For Better Pay

Ahead of the planned movement of cargoes from the Apapa port by rail to Abeokuta and Ibadan, workers of the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) have called on the Federal Government to implement the 95 per cent salary enhancement agreement reached between the workers and the Federal Ministry of Transportation (FMOT).

Recall that the NRC is set to commence the movement of cargoes from the Apapa port to Abeokuta and Ibadan as part of government efforts to decongest the ports in Lagos.

Speaking exclusively with the Nigerian Tribune in Lagos, Secretary General of the Nigerian Union of Railway Workers (NUR), Comrade Segun Esan explained that the workers have decided not to disrupt the operations of the NRC for now because of the appointment of a new Minister of Transportation, Alhaji Muazu Jaji Sambo.

According to Comrade Segun Esan, "We are aware that the NRC is fine-tuning arrangements for the movement of cargoes from the Apapa port in Lagos to Abeokuta and Ibadan. This is long overdue because the Corporation will make more money from freight haulage compared to what we make daily from passenger haulage. We welcome this development and look forward to its commencement.

"However, we are yet to see the implementation of an agreement between the workers and the Federal Government on increment in salaries and benefits. If you recall that we embarked on a three-day warning strike last year November to protest over the poor salaries railway workers are earning".

## RTEAN Supports Soludo On Ticket Racketeering, Touting

The Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria (RTEAN), in Anambra state, led by Chukwuma Okonkwo, has lent its support to the ban on touting, ticket racketeering and diversion of Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) by unscrupulous persons.

According to Okonkwo, the ugly trends can be addressed if Governor Chukwuma Soludo partners with the association.

Okonkwo frowned on the fact that it is only in the state that RTEAN operations have been stalled by the past administration, urging Soludo to remedy the situation by allowing his men to operate voluntarily to enable his government to achieve its targets.

The RTEAN chieftain revealed that RTEAN members have official

uniforms, and membership identity cards tagged on their uniforms for easy identification, stressing that such disposition is aimed at guaranteeing lawful operations in parks and on roads.

## NURTW Commends Members Over Ekiti, Osun Polls

The president of the National Union of Road Transport Workers, NURTW, Alhaji Tajudeen Ibikunle Baruwa has cautioned his members against any action that could tarnish the image of the union.

The NURTW president who was speaking on the performance of his members during the just concluded Ekiti and Osun governorship

The unionist revealed that the RTEAN and Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) would partner for a training programme for about 200 Marshals in the association for effective traffic management and

elections warned that the union would not hesitate to severely punish any member who engages in activities that tarnishes the image of the organization.

He commended his members for their commitment and stewardship towards the success recorded by the Independent National Electoral Commission in the just concluded governorship elections in Osun and

behavioural conduct.

Okonkwo expressed hope that if the Ministry of Transport approves its proposal, RTEAN is capable of moving against touting and diversion of revenue due to government.

Ekiti States.

Disclosing that members of the union provided logistics and transportation services to INEC during the elections, the NURTW boss promised that the organization will continue to collaborate with INEC during elections to ease logistics and transportation problems, especially the forthcoming 2023 general elections across the country.

# PAPER

By Luqman Mamudu

## National Automotive Industry Development Plan 2014-2022: Matters Arising

### OBJECTIVES

- Establish a dynamic fiscal policy to attract and sustain investment.
- Assemble / manufacture 1 million automobiles for transport mining and agriculture by revitalizing existing facilities and attracting FDI.
- Renew Nigerian Vehicle stock and reverse pressure on Balance of payment and strengthen the Naira through gradual increase in local content.
- Establish automotive manufacturing infrastructure.
- Increase industry employment and establish a self sustaining manpower development structure.

### COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE NIGERIAN AUTO INDUSTRY

These countries took steps to ensure the following for their auto industry:

#### Market:

As a matter of government policy, all government vehicle purchases are from the local automotive industry.

Ban on import of fully built units (FBU) (e.g. Brazil in the 1960s and Egypt) or high import duties, 100%-300% on FBU (the rest) during the initial phase. These duties were gradually reduced and currently range from 30%-91%. In contrast, the highest FBU import duty in Nigeria was 30%. On average the range is between 10%-20%.

Import ban of used vehicles in order to create market for their domestic automotive industries. Tariffs on small cars are low to enable vehicle purchase by the middle-class.

### THE NIGERIA AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NAIDP)

The Automotive Industry Development plan was developed after extensive consultations with existing local auto manufacturers, international OEMs, as well as MDAs.

Finally, FMITI had offsite sessions with other countries that have successfully implemented automotive development programmes

### SIX PILLARS OF NAIDP INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Automotive supplier parks and clusters are where industries can share infrastructure, resources, information, knowledge and technical expertise. There are already three areas where the industry is located ideal for clusters: Lagos-Ogun, Anambra-Enugu and Kaduna-



Kano States.

Action : NADDC acquired a approximately 550 Hectares in KADUNA, OSHOGBO and NNawi for about N500m. (Unutilized)

### HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT:

Manpower development programs for skills acquisition designed and implementation initiated by NADDC . Access to OEM robust training resource provisioned

Action: Skills gap survey completed and training programs launched with Technical insititutions and Universities.

Elements of the Automotive Industry Development Plan and recorded action.

### STANDARD

Safety and products standards are crucial to the development of a viable automotive industry:

- SON partnered for resource and compliance with ISO 9001 QMS quality requirements.

- Programs to facilitate acquisition of homologation certificate locallyinitiated while certificates issued by an authorised agency in the country of origin sufficed pending local homologation capabilities.

### Action:

-NADDC, with the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) and other stakeholders, developed/adopted 106 vehicle safety standards.

-NADDC built automotive component safety test centers at 80% completion at a total cost of N3 billion app

-NADDC concluded preliminary provisioning with the state's Motor Vehicle Administration Departments to review and reform the vehicle inspection and certification system.

### Elements of the Automotive Industry Development Plan

### INVESTMENT PROMOTION

While the provision of appropriate tariff measures, patronage, supplier parks, etc were critical, deliberate campaigns programs are provisioned

ACTION: Automotive investment assurance bill submitted for legislation, and NADDC automotive repository launched

A. Policy consistency by government through legislation.

B. Checking Smuggling: NADDC is already working with the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) and the Nigerian Customs Service (NCS) on this issue. Measures to control vehicle smuggling through the control of vehicle registration system is being worked out.



# AUTO CEOS FORUM

The Maiden Nigeria Auto CEOs Forum held on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at the Nicon Luxury hotel, Abuja. It was graced by top government officials and auto personalities.



L-R: Managing Director, Honda Automobile Western Africa Ltd., Mr. Takashi Nakajima; Manager, Sales, Marketing and Logistics, Mr. Remi Adams; and former Acting Director General of the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC), Mr. Luqman Mamudu, at the maiden edition of the Nigeria Auto CEOs Forum, held at the Nicon Luxury hotel, Abuja



L-R: Managing Director of Nord Automobiles, Mr. Tobi Ayaji and Group Executive Director, Lanre Shittu Motors, Mr. Taiwo Shittu



Representatives of Nigeria Customs Service; Federal Road Safety Corps; National Bureau of Statistics; National Automotive Design & Development Council; Bureau of Public Procurement; National Drug Law Enforcement Agency; Abuja Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Ministry of Industry, Trade & Investment



Chairman, Auto Sector Group, Lagos Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Kunle Jaiyesimi



Director, BPP, Ezech Obasi



GM, CFAO, Abuja Eric Fantodji

# PAPER

Continued from Page 13

Elements of the Automotive Industry Development Plan  
**MARKET DEVELOPMENT**

**ACTION:** Automotive credit purchase program designed and initiated with N100m deposit with CBN

The Nigerian vehicle market was observed to hold capacity to support an indigenous automotive industry. The following programs designed for implementation:

- (a) Affordable vehicles programme
- (b) Vehicle purchase scheme
- (c) Patronage by government and its agencies
- (d) Regulating Used Vehicle Import

**MARKET DEVELOPMENT**

**Patronage by Government and its Agencies**

Government directed that, as a first step, 50% of vehicle purchases by government should be from the local assembly plants. This is in line with government policy and the new patronage circular no. SGF.OP/I/S.3/VIII/ 250 of 12 April 2011. This figure was to be reviewed upwards with increased capacity utilization by the plants.

**Regulating Used Vehicle Import:**

To stop the importation of vehicles which require frequent maintenance and are not cost effective, government should:

Continue to ban the importation of cars over 8 years old.

Ban the importation of Commercial vehicles (trucks and buses) that are over 8 years old.

From 2014 onwards, charge extra levy and a minimum base price on used imported vehicles as detailed in table 15.

**Vehicle Purchase Scheme:**

The current annual demand for vehicles, approximately 100,000 new and 200,000 used vehicles can easily reach 500,000 with an affordable vehicle purchase scheme.

The proposed levy on vehicle imports should be used in part for creating an affordable vehicle financing scheme, including setting up consumer credit guarantee scheme.

**RECOMMENDED MEASURES TO REPOSITION AND GROW INDUSTRY**

Resumption of monitoring and Evaluation program by competent industrial officers with knowledge of the automotive industry;

Revisit of all abandoned NAIDP programs by NADDC including periodic consultative meetings

Timely grant and renewal of license with specified period of processing.

Orientation training of schedule officers of all stakeholders inter-ministerial agencies on the NAIDP;



Unity of all assemblers must be reinforced under NAMA

**RECOMMENDATION**

Reversal of section 38 of the Finance Act to status quo

Presidential accent to the NAIDP investment protection act.

SON to request integrity report on

all Used vehicle imports

Restrain the importation of USED vehicles and direct patronage of local stock of imported vehicles estimated to about 4 million units nationwide. ( This will reduce pressure on the naira)

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR AUTOMOTIVE ASSEMBLY LICENCE**

Acquisition of suitable assembly space

A duly endorsed technical agreement with an oem or direct application by an oem with a clear local content clause an assembly process flow-chart based on space provided with clear marking

of work stations

A comprehensive list of equipment for purpose of assembly and in house engineering work if any

The packing list of skd/ckd import kit

Certificate of incorporation

Tax clearance

A waiver on certificate was negotiated with manufacturing association of Nigeria (man) at license stage but not at renewal.

*Luqman Mamudu is the Managing Partner Transtech Industrial consulting and Former Acting DG NADDC luqman@transtechconsults*

**Table 5a. Import Duty and other Charges on Vehicle Import by Selected Countries.\***  
 \* Source: Asia Automotive Business Review. A quarterly publication by Fourin, Inc, Japan

Country	Import Duty (% CIF)	Other taxes (%CIF)		Total (%CIF)	Remarks
		Excise Duty	Sales Tax / VAT		
Brazil (FBU)	Pre-Oct 2011	35	30	65	
	From Oct 2011	50	30	80	To check the influx of cheap Chinese made vehicles
India (FBU & SKD)	91	16-24		107-115+	States' Sales taxes variable
India (CKD)	15	16-24		31-39+	
Malaysia (FBU)	30	65-125	10	105-165	
Malaysia (CKD)	10	65-125	10	85-145	
South Africa	FBU Pre 1995	115		115+	Excise duty and sales tax not available
	FBU 1995-2002	40		40+	
	FBU 2002	25		25+	

# NEWS

## FG To Install Three Toll Gates On Lagos-Ibadan Expressway - Fashola



### FG To Install Three Toll Gates On Lagos-Ibadan Expressway - Fashola

The Nigerian Minister of Works and Housing, Babatunde Fashola, has said the Federal Government is returning tolling to the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway upon completion of the rehabilitation of the highway.

In an interview on Channels Television's 'Sunday Politics', recently, the minister said about three toll plazas were expected on the highway.

While projecting the completion of the road rehabilitation to December 2022, the former governor of Lagos State said a toll plaza was expected

each in the Lagos, Ogun (Ogere) and Ibadan parts of the road when completed.

On the December deadline for the completion of the road work, Fashola said there was a caveat to the realisation of that promise.

He noted that the Oyo State government was constructing a

drainage facility around the Ojoo part of the road, which, according to him, had significantly slowed down the pace of work in that area.

He, however, said he was already in talks with the Oyo State Governor, Seyi Makinde, to resolve the challenge.

## Suzuki by CFAO Unveils Celerio For Nigeria Market

A new chapter opened recently in the Nigerian automotive market following the public launch of the cost-effective and completely revamped Suzuki Celerio from the stable of CFAO Motors located on Victoria Island, Lagos.

The Celerio which is an addition to the collection of their latest technological advancement comes in a variety of colours. It is equipped with a 9-inch entertainment screen, alloy wheels, and new generation AMT amongst much other enhanced technology and safety features.

In terms of exterior design, platform, and over all dimensions, the second generation Celerio is a completely new car and is based on the company's Heartect platform, an innovative new-generation platform introduced exclusively for new generation cars with a core focus on safety.

The Suzuki Celerio has also changed as far as dimensions are concerned. It is now 3,695mm long, 1,655mm high

and 1,555mm wide. A longer wheelbase of 2,435mm has also helped in creating more space and comfort.

A critical look at the over all shows that concerned, the big headlamps and chrome-stripped grille combine to give the Celerio a fresh front-end design.

The bumper also comes with

claddings that house fog lights on top variants. In profile, one can see the new 15-inch alloys which look sporty. Lower variants will ride on 14-inch steel wheels.

Speaking during the historic Suzuki Celerio model launch, Aissatou Diouf, general manager of Suzuki by CFAO said, "We are delighted to launch the Celerio, a gender-

balanced and self-sufficient car that meets the needs of a large demography of the Nigerian market. We came into the Nigerian market with a clear plan to make Japanese cars accessible to Nigerians and we have continued to improve our value proposition. We can indeed say there is a Suzuki for everyone".

### Autochek, CFAO Suzuki Sign MoU for Stress-free Car Ownership

CFAO Motors, franchisees and sole distributors of Suzuki cars in Nigeria, has entered a strategic partnership with Autochek; an automotive technology company, to make car ownership more accessible and affordable in Nigeria and across Africa.

With this deal, interested buyers of Suzuki range of vehicles in Nigeria

will have easy access to finance, as customers can walk into any of CFAO Motors dealerships nationwide and get instant financing for any used or new Suzuki vehicle of their choice for purchase.

Drivers will also be able to get financing for new and used Suzuki cars through the Autochek website.

Since its reintroduction into the market in 2019, Suzuki has been at

the forefront of introducing cutting-edge technology and market-leading innovation to the Nigerian automotive value chain.

From sales to after-sales, Suzuki by CFAO has been committed to transforming the local auto experience by embedding technology solutions into every stage of the automotive lifecycle.



# NEWS

## Rail Project: Lagos Commences Compensation For 800 Residents

Lagos State Government has commenced payment of compensation to about 800 people comprising tenants and property owners affected in the process of establishing the right of ways for the Lagos Rail Mass Transit, LRMT, Red line project in Ogun State. Meanwhile, Lagos and Ogun State government recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) granting Lagos access to acquire space for the construction of a train station and depot yard at Agbodo. The MoU is a product of several high level meetings between both states for the Red Line rail which is projected to move more than One million passengers daily when fully completed and create employment for thousands of people apart from promoting real estate and improving the lifestyle of the people of both states.

The compensation process was carried out jointly by officials of the Land Bureau of the Ogun State Government and consultant to Lagos metropolitan Area Transport Authority, LAMATA, Messrs. Global Impact and Environmental Service.



Managing Director of LAMATA, Mrs. Abimbola Akinajo represented by the Technical Adviser, Corporate and Investment Planning, LAMATA, Engr. Osa Konyeha, said

the gesture was in fulfilment of its promise to compensate affected parties by project.

The Red Line is a 25-kilometre rail road from Agbado in

Ogun State to Marina in Lagos. Its first phase from Agbado to Oyingbo is currently under construction and is due to commence passenger operations in the first quarter of 2023.

## Diesel Price Force NRC To Reduce Trips

The hike in diesel price has forced the Nigerian Railway Corporation to reduce the number of trips on the Lagos-Ibadan Train Service by about 66.67 per cent, it was gathered by Punch recently.

It was also learnt that the corporation had sent recommendations to the Federal Ministry of Transportation for an adjustment in the transport fare on the train service.

The Managing Director, NRC, Fidat Okhiria, told the Punch that though

the service was still running, its trips had been reduced due to the persistent hike in diesel price. Diesel prices have risen by over 300 per cent in a few months.

The spike in diesel price also warranted some level of petrol scarcity in Abuja and neighbouring states, as many truck owners could not afford the high cost, a development that made the Federal Government to raise the bridging claims being paid to petrol transporters.

Speaking on the impact of the high cost of diesel in the rail sector, Okhiria told our correspondent that the NRC had to cut down its trips, particularly on the Lagos-Ibadan route.

“The Lagos-Ibadan train service is running but we have reduced the number of trips on that route because of the diesel problem. We reduced the number of trips we are running because of the hike in diesel price,” he stated.

## Transnet Funds Rail Between SA And Botswana

South Africa and Botswana have agreed to fund the improvement and extension of rail links between the countries in a bid to boost trade and better connect Botswana to export markets, South African state-owned logistics firm Transnet said recently.

Transnet Freight Rail (TFR) will collaborate with Botswana Rail (BR) to fix parts of the 126 km (78 mile) rail line between Swartruggens, in South Africa's North West province, and Mafikeng, on the border with Botswana, helping South Africa's landlocked northern neighbour get its minerals, including thermal coal, to market.

European countries are scrambling to meet their coal needs after a ban on imports of the fossil fuel from Russia, and coal-rich countries like Botswana are looking to cash in on the surge in

demand.

The rail revamp will enable heavy haul trains to travel from Botswana to South Africa's ports of Richards

Bay and Durban, TFR said. The project aims to be up and running in the next 24 months. Financial terms were not disclosed.

## Release Of All Abducted Abuja-Kaduna Train Attack Remains A Priority- Transportation Minister

By Ignatius Ushie

The Federal Government has reiterated its resolve at securing the release of the 43 persons still held captive by the terrorists.

The Minister of Transportation, Engr. Mu'azu Jaji Sambo stated this while addressing families of the victims of the ill-fated March 28, 2022, train attack who led a peaceful protest to the Ministry demanding

the release of their loved ones.

According to him. “The government has not been sleeping, from the enquiries I have made. There are some things you do not say in public, but I want you to give me time. Let me resume properly in this office and I promise you, this will be the first issue I am going to tackle by the grace of God”, the Minister assured.

## Railway Retirees Protest Sale Of Quarters

The retired workers of the Nigerian Railway Corporation, under the aegis of Railway Senior Citizens Association Eastern District Enugu, recently staged a peaceful protest in Enugu against an illegal sale of railway quarters' premises in violation of a subsisting court judgment.

The senior citizens, who carried placards with various inscriptions such as “Railway Police Enugu Stop Aiding and Abetting Contempt of Court;” “Railway Police Command Emulate Enugu State Police Command CID on Court Order;” “Railway Police Command Obey Court Orders”, among others, chanted labour solidarity songs.

Addressing journalists, the Chairman of the association, Mr Monday Nnonah, lamented how government officials would violate valid and subsisting court judgments with impunity and turn around to ask to Nigerians to be law abiding.

Nnonah said that the Zonal Manager, Railway Property Company Limited, Enugu, Mr Anthony Okhibenor, had been selling the premises of the retirees' quarters with impunity, contrary to a court order which gave them right of first rejection under the Federal Government's monetisation policy.

# MARITIME

## Works on Makurdi Port to Commence Soon-Jime

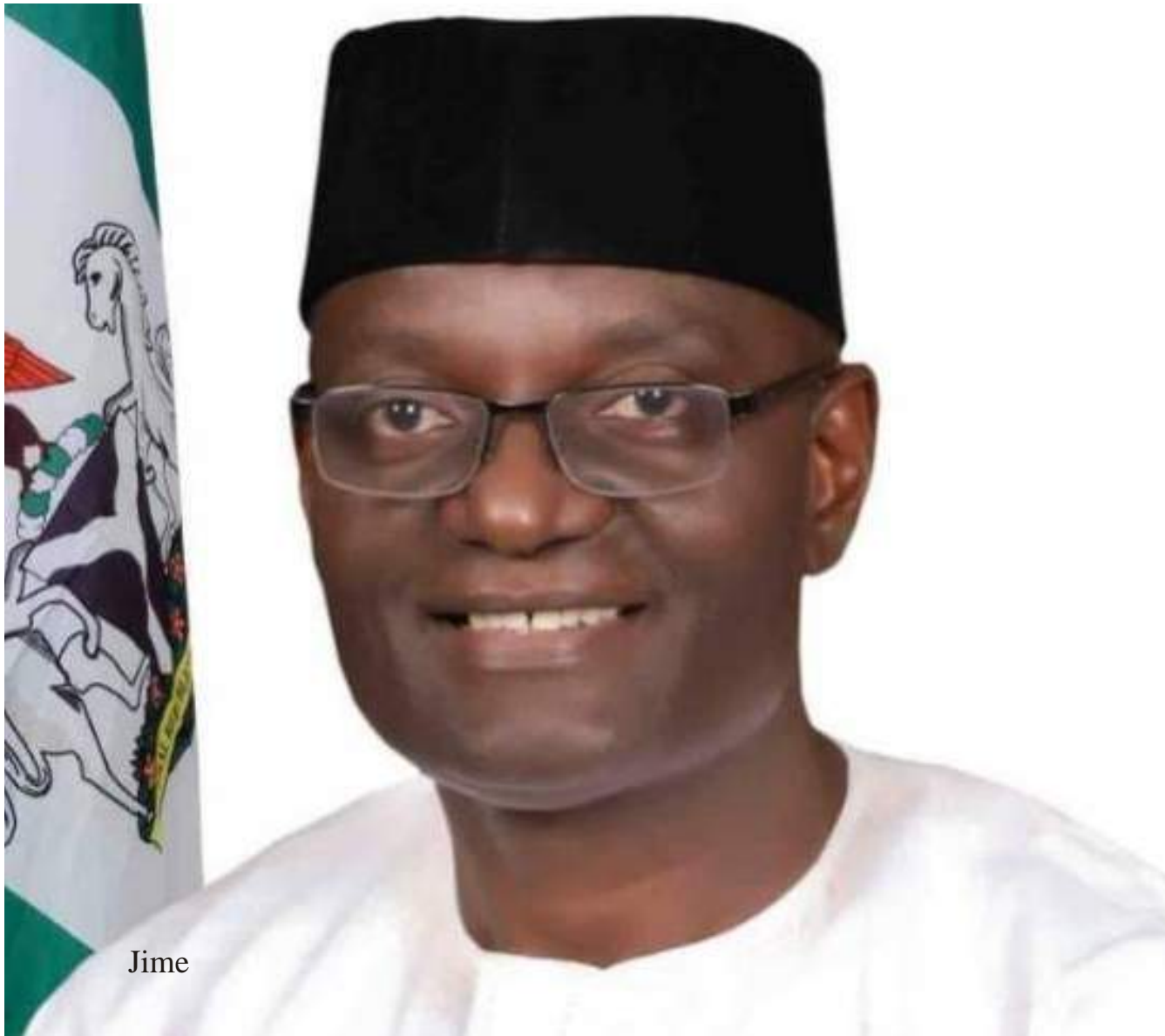
The Executive Secretary of Nigeria Shippers Council, Mr. Emmanuel Jime, has said that work on the Makurdi River Port would soon commence as the port had been earmarked as one of new River ports that would be developed around the country.

Mr. Jime gave the indication in Makurdi recently after the inauguration of the Council's office.

According to him, an assurance has been given by the Managing Director of the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) that work would soon start on the Makurdi River Port.

Jime, who also attended one-day seminar with stakeholders with the theme 'Appropriate Packaging and Quality Assurance of Argo-Allied Products as a Panacea for Increased Export', said the new port will boost economic activity in Benue State which he said would lead to job creation for people in the state.

He urged the business community in Benue State to take advantage of the export promotion drive of the federal government to access the international market with non-oil exportable goods and produce. Jime pointed out that as the Food



Jime

Basket of the Nation, Benue had a lot to benefit from the non-oil export promotion drive of the government especially when such

exportable agro-allied goods and products were packaged and preserved properly in line with international best practices.

He said, "that is why this seminar

has been put together, because the need for appropriate packaging and quality assurance of such agro-allied products for export is key to a successful export trade."

The Benue State Governor, Samuel Ortom, who was represented by his Chief of Staff, Dr. Tivlumum Nyitse, commended the Council for its activities in the state

President of the Benue Shippers Association, Potter Orbem Yakubu, commended the Council for its decision to reopen its Area Office in Makurdi, saying the gesture of the

Executive Secretary would bring export trade and shipping closer to the people of the state.

## NIWA Reiterate Resolve Against Night Boat Operations

By Salome Columba

The National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) has reiterated its warning to boat operators to shun night operations beyond 7 pm.

The Managing Director of the authority, Dr George Moghalu, issued the warning at a media interactive session with transport correspondents in Lagos recently.

Moghalu said the authority had constituted a waterways task force to arrest any boat operators operating beyond the stipulated time.

The NIWA boss said the Task Force comprised the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA), barge operators, Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria, and the Marine Police.

According to him, studies by the authority shows that most boat accidents occur either at night or early in the morning adding that the practice must stop.

He said "that is part of the regulation we are putting in place, we are more concerned about people's lives, check

the history of accidents even in ferries.

"You find out that over 90 per cent of accident happens in the early hours of the morning or in night and most of these vessels do not have navigational lights.

"On our own parts, we are laying buoys, trying to put navigational aids on the waterways but at the same time, we are appealing to

residents in the Riverine communities to ensure the safety of this navigational equipment.

"We have come to see that vandals, thieves destroy this navigational equipment and make away with them," he said.

Moghalu said the authority would sanction offenders of laws regulating the use of the waterways.

According to him, the Task Force

has the mandate to arrest people, sanction people, and prosecute people, it is no more business as usual. There must be sanity on our waterways.

He, however, said that NIWA would continue to encourage boat operators to do the right thing and reduce the incessant boat mishap on waterways by adhering to safety regulations as stipulated by it.

### NIMASA, NLNG To Collaborate For Improved Operations

The Management of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, NIMASA, and that of the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas, NLNG, have agreed to set up a working Committee meeting regularly to ensure improved liaison between both organization in the interest of Nigeria.

This agreement was reached during a courtesy visit by the Management of the NLNG led by the Managing Director, Dr Philip Mshelbila to NIMASA.

### NIMASA To Review Sponsorship Of Cadets

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, NIMASA, is currently reviewing the cost of direct sponsorship of Nigerian cadets undergoing foreign training under the Nigerian Seafarers Development Programme (NSDP).

The Director General of NIMASA Dr Bashir Jamoh noted that the review of ongoing sponsorship cost has become necessary due to the global inflationary trends which is very pronounced in the Philippines,

India and some other countries where Nigerian cadets are undergoing Certificate of Competency (CoC) Examination training under the NSDP programme. The sponsorship covers training leading to obtaining a Certificate of Competency, CoC.

"We are not unmindful of the unforeseen global inflationary trend which has affected the cost of sustaining our cadets who are on sponsorship in some schools under the NSDP programme".

# MARITIME

## Customs Seize Tramadol Worth N6bn In Apapa



L-R: Professor Ayandiji Aina, Provost, College of Postgraduate Studies, Babcock University; Bode Ojeniyi, Group Executive Director, SIFAX Group and representative of Dr. Taiwo Afolabi, SIFAX Group Chairman; Professor Ademola Tayo, President/Vice Chancellor, Babcock University; Dr. Abimbola Abolarinwa, Surgery Department, Lagos State University Teaching Hospital/ first female Urologist in Nigeria and Ademola Adebise, Managing Director/CEO, Wema Bank at an interactive session for graduating students organised as part of the activities for the 2022 convocation ceremony held at the Babcock University, Ilishan Remo, Ogun State recently

The Apapa Command of the Nigeria Customs Service, NCS, announced the seizure of a container load of tramadol imported from Pakistan with street value of about N6 billion.

Customs Area Controller of Apapa Customs, Comptroller Yusuf Ibrahim Malanta, who disclosed this recently,

said the drugs were concealed carefully with towels, but that through the eagle eyes of officers and the deployment of what he called "Forensic Manifest Management System" the drugs were discovered.

Details of the offensive items handed over to the National Drug

Law Enforcement Agency, NDLEA, by the Customs, according to Malanta, include "1x20ft container No. PCIU 0183241 laden with eighty-one (81) cartons of 250mg and sixty-nine (69) cartons of 225mg of tramadol tablets (Each carton contains 72 rolls, each roll contains

10 packs, each pack contains 10 sachets, and each sachet contains 10 tablets) totaling 150 cartons of tramadol tablets." While receiving the container, Mr Ameh Inalegwu, Apapa Commander of NDLEA said that the Chairman of NDLEA, Brig Gen Buba Marwa (Rtd) has expressed great pride in the Apapa Customs boss.

## Publisher Advises Journalists On Advantages, Dangers Of Social Media

Social Media has been described as a revolutioner and liberaliser of Journalism practice around the globe in the 21st Century.

This was disclosed by Comrade Ismail Aniemu in a lecture he delivered during a train the trainers seminar for the Association of Maritime Journalists of Nigeria executives (AMJON) in Apapa recently.

In the lecture titled, "Role of Social Media in Journalism Practice", Aniemu noted that the advent of social media has made it easier for anyone to become a reporter at anytime from anywhere and making wide impact. According to the Journal.NG magazine publisher, while social media practice has its low side like dissemination of fake news, it has digitalised the practice of journalism either as a career or pastime hobby.

"Everywhere is a newsroom, everyone given the opportunity to be the reporter, editor and publisher".

On the importance of social media in journalism, he noted that "at a face value, journalists not only benefit from the exposure that digital

environment brings, but also have unlimited amount of information available at their finger tips".

The Maritime resource person also highlighted the challenges social media could pose for quakes in journalism practice such as Fake News, Unethical Practices, Mob

Journalism and Regulatory Impediments.

These challenges include cyber crime offenses when a fake practitioner is caught maligning innocent people, which attracts maximum of 2 years jail team or two million Naira or both.

## APM Terminals Supports Campaign Against Drug Abuse

Nigeria's largest container terminal, APM Terminals, Apapa, Lagos, has taken part in sponsoring this year's International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking. The International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking is observed on June 26 annually.

APM Terminals Apapa also participated in activities organised by the National Drug Law

Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Apapa Area Command, to mark the day.

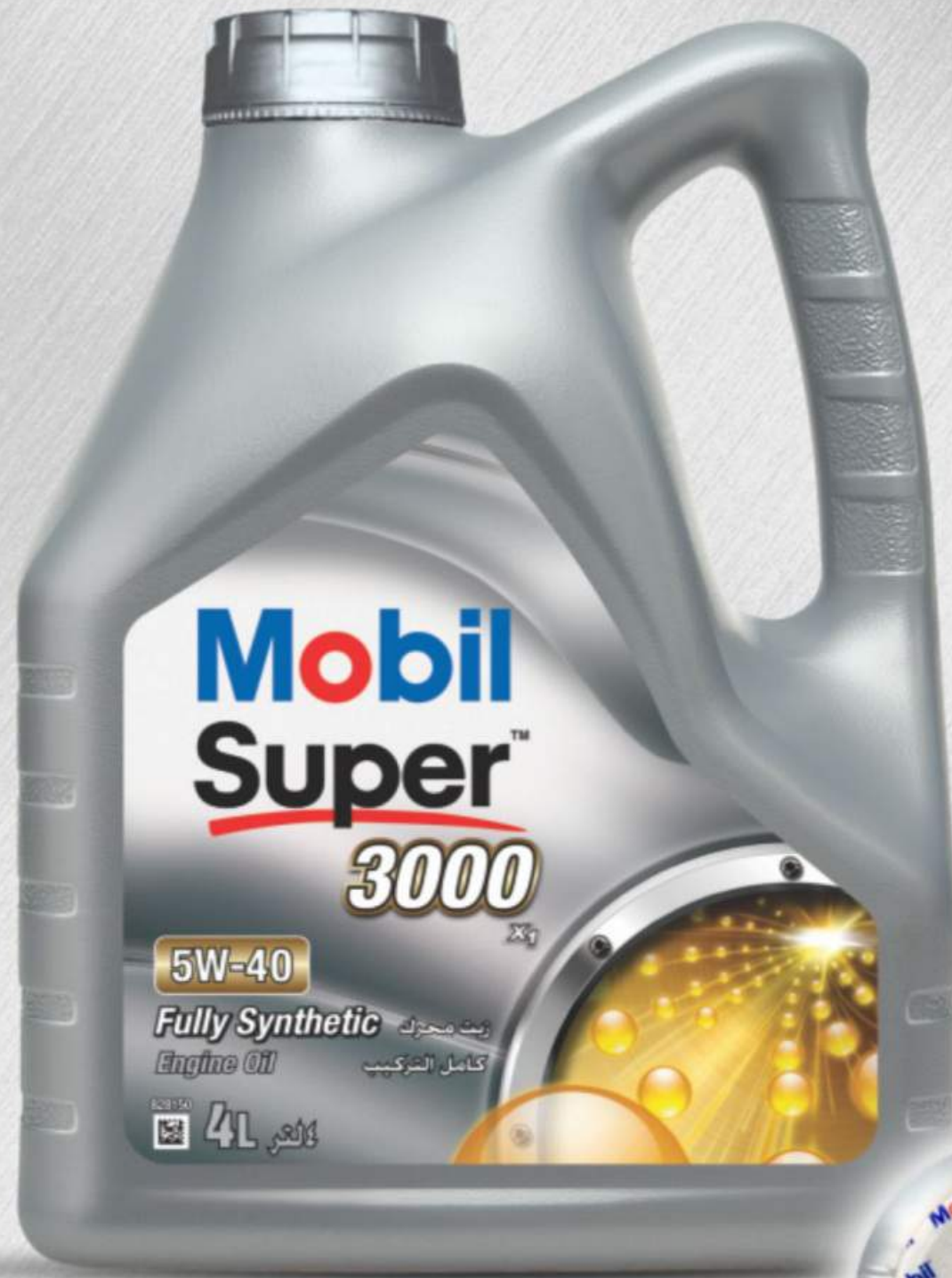
Speaking on the event, Legal and Corporate Affairs General Manager at APM Terminals Nigeria, Chinenye Mirian Deinde, said, "It was a collaborative and interactive workshop comprising of participants in the maritime industry and port community.

"While the audience included

secondary school students, members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), government enforcement agencies, community leaders and traditional rulers from the community as well as other port stakeholders, terminal operators had the highest representation of the corporate stakeholder group.

"This shows commitment to partner with the NDLEA to curb the menace of drugs coming in through the seaport," Deinde said.

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