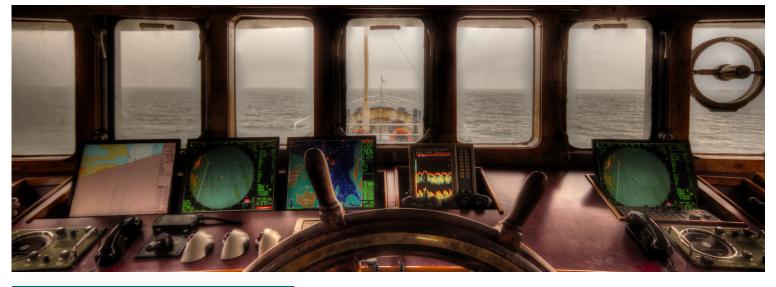
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**OUR VISION** 

To deliver exemplary transshipment operations, procurement and charter services "on time" and "on budget" according to global safety and quality standards.



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## NNPC TELLS PARTNERS, SUPPLIERS TO BRING DOWN COSTS TO 40%

by Ship & Ports

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) said it has directed all its partners and suppliers to bring down their cost to between  $30\,$  and  $40\,$  per cent to ensure production efficiency.

NNPC's Group Managing Director, Malam Melem Kyari, made the disclosure when he featured as a guest on a live Television programme on Thursday.

He said the corporation had resolved to cut down its capital expenditure and to ensure it achieved the crude oil production cost reduction of 10 dollars per barrel.

"Our target is to bring down the cost to \$10 by the end of 2021. We have insisted on making sure that our partners and all our suppliers cut their costs to at least 30 to 40 percent and that will significantly bring down our costs. It's very realistic and we are realising that," he said.

He noted that the target of \$10 per barrel by 2021 will help the country to remain competitive in the global market.

"If you can't do this, you walk away, this is not a business of subsidies," he noted.

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## COVID-19: CUSTOMS TO DEPLOY CAMERAS FOR CARGO EXAMINATION

by Shulammite 'Foyeku

The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) said it is planning to deploy endoscopic cameras for cargo examination at the nation's seaports, even as it has reduced the number of cargoes being physically examined as part of measures to enhance social distancing and ensure prompt cargo clearing operations at the port in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Deputy Comptroller of Customs and representative of the NCS at the Presidential Enabling Business Environment Council (PEBEC), DC Anthony Anyalogu, stated this on Thursday during an industry stakeholders' virtual dialogue organized by SHIPS & PORTS

## VESSELS' WAITING TIME AT LAGOS PORTS NOW HITS 50 DAYS

by Hellenic Shipping news

Palpable tension now hovers around the Lagos and Tin-Can Island Ports complexes as the number of days each vessels waiting to be called in to berth at the different terminals has now increased to 50 days. Aside the increase in turn-around time, about 1000 container load of raw materials meant for export are also trapped along the port access roads due to the chaotic traffic situation caused by trucks carrying export cargoes.

Arising from these challenges posed by congestion, the Executive Secretary of the Nigerian Shippers' Council, Barr. Hassan Bello, midwifed an agreement between AMP Terminal and the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) on the evacuation of cargoes by rail.

The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has also licensed more barge operators for the evacuation of imports by waterways.

A visibly angry Bello blamed the congestion on importers who have abandoned their consignments inside the ports.

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Managing Director NPA, Hadiza Bala-Usman

## NPA TO SAVE NIGERIA MULTI-MILLION DOLLARS THROUGH LOCAL DRY-DOCKING

by Eromosele Abiodun

The Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Hadiza Bala-Usman, has said the agency has granted the necessary approval to ensure that vessel owners dry-dock their vessels in Nigeria to save the country multi-million dollars spent on ship repairs outside the country.

Bala-Usman disclosed this while speaking during a webinar, titled: "COVID-19 and the Nigerian Maritime Sector: Lessons and Way Forward," organised by maritime lawyer, Mike Igbokwe.

According to her, "NPA has given a waiver for vessels that are meant for servicing and dry-docking and this has enabled vessel owners to competitively dry-dock in Nigeria.

She also said the NPA would discuss with ship-owners on the issues of applicable policies around berthing of vessels in the West African region stressing that the NPA is keen to resolve the matter in a timely manner.

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# GREECE, ITALY SIGN DEAL DELIMITING MARITIME ZONES

by Al Jazeera's John Psaropoulos

Greece and Italy have signed an agreement demarcating their maritime boundaries, amid tension in the Mediterranean region over rights to natural resources. The agreement signed on Tuesday in Athens tackled an issue that had been pending for 40 years, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said in a statement.

"Today is a good day for Greece, Italy, Europe and the entire Mediterranean," Mitsotakis said, adding that the deal meets international law and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Signed some seven months after Turkey inked a similar deal with Libya's internationally-recognised government on the southern side of the Mediterranean, Tuesday's agreement demarcates the exclusive economic zone - the maritime area in which a nation has the right of energy exploration and use of marine resources - between Greece and Italy in the Ionian Sea.

"Today is a historic day," Dendias said

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Greek Foreign Minister Nikos Dendias and his Italian counterpart Luigi Di Maio sign an agreement demarcating their maritime boundaries following a meeting at the Foreign Ministry in Athens, Greece [Costas Baltas/Reuters]

## OMAN STEPS UP TRADE DIGITALISATION

by The Maritime Standard

As a part of the Sultanate of Oman's ongoing efforts to enhance the efficiency, competitiveness and transparency of logistics services, and to ensure a speedy flow of goods through the country's various ports, the Ministry of Transport recently issued a circular urging the shipping industry to adopt new digital technology more extensively. The circular mandates shipping lines and their agents to share data with the Customs Bayan Single Window system through an electronic data interface.

From June 1st 2020, all shipping companies and agents must submit goods manifest documents listing details of cargo contents to Customs at least 48 hours before the arrival of the vessel at the relevant port in Oman. In the event that the sailing time is less than 48 hours, the manifest must be submitted immediately upon the departure of the vessel from its last port of call before reaching its destination in Oman. The circular also requires shipping lines to issue an arrival notice to customers two days before vessel arrival.

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