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NNPC ANNOUNCES TOP MANAGEMENT APPOINTMENTS AS TOP OFFICIAL RESIGNS

by Chike Olisah

The NNPC has effected a major shake-up to enable the corporation to live up to its expectations.

The state-owned oil giant, the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has effected some major reorganization in the firm. They have announced some new appointments and redeployments as part of the ongoing efforts to strengthen and reposition NNPC for greater efficiency, transparency and profitability in line with the next level agenda of President Muhammadu Buhari's administration. This was disclosed in a press release by NNPC on Sunday, July 5, 2020, and signed by the corporation's Group General Manager Public Affairs Division Dr Kennie Obateru.

In the statement released by the oil giant, Mr Adokiye Tombomiyee, the Group General Manager, Crude Oil Marketing Division (COMD), is now the new Chief Operating Officer (COO), Upstream while Mr Mohammed Abdulkabir Ahmed, the Managing Director of the Nigerian Gas Marketing Company (NGMC), has been appointed the new Chief Operating Officer, Corporate Services, following the retirement of Engr. Farouk Garba Sa'id, last week.

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PIRATES KIDNAP 9 NIGERIANS

by Jude Egbas

The ship was from the Okwori oilfield operated by Addax Petroleum.

Pirates attacked an oil production vessel off Nigeria's coast in the early hours of Thursday, July 2, 2020 and kidnapped nine Nigerians.

BW Offshore Chief Financial Officer, Staale Andreassen, told Reuters that the ship was undergoing maintenance when the attack happened. None of the people left on the vessel were injured as of last week when the attack occurred.

"We are working now with the Nigerian authorities to get those nine people safely back," Andreassen said.

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NNPC QUELLS FEARS OVER LEAKING LAGOS PIPELINE

by William Ukpe

The Corporation says it was on the last stage of completing repairs which includes hydro testing.

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) urged Nigerians to ignore reports of a possible fire outbreak from a vandalized pipeline at Aboru Canal in Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos state.

"There is no such hazard as the line in question has since been shut down for repairs and presently contains only water," NNPC said.

NNPC said that the Atlas Cove-Mosimi stretch of the system 2B pipeline was shut down on June 25, 2020, to enable the comprehensive maintenance of some segment of the pipeline.

The Corporation says it was on the last stage of completing repairs which includes hydro testing (a process of pumping water through the entire pipeline to leak detection and for integrity tests).

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Managing Director, Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Hadiza Bala Usman

US SEEKS TO SEIZE GASOLINE IN IRAN TANKERS BOUND FOR VENEZUELA

by Ships & Ports

US prosecutors have filed a lawsuit to seize the gasoline aboard four tankers that Iran is shipping to Venezuela.

John C. Demers, Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division; Michael R. Sherwin, Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia; Steven W. Cagen, Special Agent in Charge, Denver, Colorado, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI); Rainer S. Drolshagen, Special Agent in Charge, Minneapolis, Minnesota, Federal Bureau of Investigation, made the announcement today.

The suit alleged that all petroleum-product cargo aboard the Bella with the international maritime organization (IMO) number 9208124, the Bering with IMO number 9149225, the Pandi with IMO number 9105073, and the Luna with IMO number 9208100 are subject to forfeiture based on the terrorism forfeiture statute.

The shipments are alleged to be a “source of influence” for the IRGC, a designated foreign terrorist organization.

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REPS PROBE NPA OVER \$1BN ‘SECRET ACCOUNT’

by Ships & Ports

The House of Representatives has resolved to investigate the alleged secret account being kept by the Nigerian Ports Authority with a balance of over \$1 billion.

The move followed the unanimous adoption of a motion of urgent public importance moved by Kolawole Lawal at the plenary on Thursday. The motion was entitled, ‘The Need to Investigate the Alleged Illegal Secret Account Opened by the Nigerian Ports Authority in Unity Bank to Collect Revenue from Vessels’.

Consequently, the House mandated the Committees on Finance; and Ports and Harbours to “investigate these allegations and counter-allegations, determine if the Nigerian Ports Authority or any of their personnel committed any infractions.”

The lawmaker said the whistleblower alleged that the information he gave to the OAGF led to the exposure of an illegal secret account in a Lagos branch of Unity Bank, where the sum of \$1,034, 516,000 was kept, contrary to financial regulations and the Constitution.

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RECAAP ISSUES CREW KIDNAP WARNING FOR SHIPS IN MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES

by Ships & Ports

A warning issued in May over members of the Abu Sayyaf group looking to kidnap crew from ships in waters in the southern Philippines and East Malaysia has been repeated.

The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) said that 21 June 2020, five members of the Abu Sayyaf Group were sighted in Barangay Sipangkot, Sitangkai, Tawi-Tawi on board a white with yellow and orange stripes speedboat powered by 250HP Yamaha engine.

“The Philippine Coast Guard added that as of 30 June 2020, the plan to carry out kidnapping in Sabah and Semporna, Malaysia targeting foreigners and the abduction of crew from ships passing by the Tawi-Tawi and Sabah waters still stands,” ReCAAP said.

“Ship masters and crew are strongly urged to exercise extra vigilance when transiting the waters off Eastern Sabah and in the Sulu-Celebes Seas.”

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