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BARGES, OFFDOCK TERMINALS WILL AID PORT DECONGESTION, SAYS SIFAX BOSS

by Shulammite 'Foyeku

The Executive Director, SIFAX Off Dock, Captain Ibraheem Olugbade, has urged all the stakeholders in the maritime sector to adopt the option of barge transportation for the movement of consignments from the Lagos ports.

Olugbade said the challenges of congestion and traffic caused by bad access roads would drastically reduce if credible alternatives to road transportation like barges are encouraged by shipping lines and agents.

He said, "Shipping lines and agents should be encouraged to key into the use of barges for transfer in view of the poor state of the port access road. Aggressive transfer of cargoes through barges to the various off docks in Lagos will help decongest the port in a great way and help the port reach its maximum potentials." He also urged the Nigerian Shippers' Council and other relevant agencies to execute the policy of establishing inland container depots in various parts of the country with more vigour as this will provide a very important leeway for the decongestion of Nigerian ports.

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by Eromosele Abiodun

Federal government agencies in the maritime sector have agreed to synergies for effective regulation of the industry.

The agencies include: Nigerian Shippers' Council (NSC), Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Nigeria Inland Water Ways Authority (NIWA) and Maritime Academy of Nigeria (MAN), Oron.

Speaking at a meeting, the Executive Secretary of the NSC, Hassan Bello, said the initiative was a wellintended move for the agencies to create synergy in the maritime industry. The sustainability of the synergy, he said was key to efforts to move the maritime industry forward.

17 SHIPS LADEN WITH PETROLEUM PRODUCTS ARRIVING AT LAGOS PORTS

by Chiazo Ogbolu

The Nigeria Ports Authority (NPA) said 17 ships laden with petroleum products, food items and other goods are expected to berth in Lagos ports from July 9 to July 20.

The NPA made this known in its publication, 'Shipping Position', on Thursday.

The publication said that the ships were conveying frozen fish, general cargo, bulk wheat, bulk sugar, butane gas, bulk salt, ethanol and petrol.

NPA said that 21 ships had arrived in the ports waiting to berth with containers of frozen fish, general cargo and petrol. The publication said that 20 other ships were at the ports discharging container, bulk wheat, general cargo, automobile gasoline, butane gas, base oil and frozen fish.

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SECURED ANCHORAGE: CONCERNS OVER FRESH BID TO RESUSCITATE SETTLED MATTERS

by Nnamdi Ojiego

The recent marine notice issued by the management of Nigerian Port Authority (NPA) to shipmasters, shipowners and other operators whose vessels currently enjoy some level of security at designated anchorage, seems to be a signal of fresh battle in the Secured Anchorage Area, SAA, matter.

The latest move is coming despite the intervention of the National Assembly, NASS, on the issue which had almost torn apart frontline operator of the Lagos area Secured Anchorage Area, Ocean Marine Solution Limited and the management of NPA.

At the peak of the dispute between the operator and the authority, the Senate intervened and ordered that the status quo remained. The intervention restricted the management of NPA from taking any action that will stop OMSL from carrying out its activities. But the new move, which is the issuance of a marine notice on the anchorage, is seen as not only controversial but also capable of generating a fresh crisis.

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REPORT: DUBAI THRIVING ON PROCEEDS FROM CRIME, CORRUPTION

by Ships & Ports

A new report titled 'Dubai's Role in Facilitating Corruption and Global Illicit Financial Flows' published on Wednesday by Carnegie Endowment For International Peace, has identified Dubai, a global financial centre and a shopper's paradise, thriving largely on steady stream of illicit proceeds borne from corruption and crime.

The report stated that the wealth from the illegal channels had helped to fuel the Emirate's booming real estate market; enrich its bankers, moneychangers, and business elites; and turn Dubai into a major gold trading hub.

According to the research paper edited by Matthew Page and Jodi Vittori with contributions from various specialists, including Lakshmi Kumar, Policy Director for Global Financial Integrity (GFI), these illegalities have become more accentuated due to the Emirati leaders and the international community's nonchalant attitude to the problematic behaviours, administrative loopholes, and weak enforcement practices that make Dubai a globally attractive destination for dirty money.

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WORLD'S LARGEST CONTAINERSHIP CALLS AT EAST CHINA HARBOR

by Ships & Ports

The world's largest containership, HMM GDANSK, called at the port of Xiamen in east China's Fujian Province on Tuesday.

The 399.99-meter-long ship has a capacity of 24,000 TEUs, with a total carrying capacity of 224,900 tonnes.

HMM GDANSK is a new ship to join the "Silk Road Shipping," an alliance jointly initiated in late 2018 by dozens of ports, carriers and logistics service providers in countries along the Belt and Road (B&R).

Running at its highest capacity, the Songyu Container Terminal of Xiamen will load and unload nearly 3,000 containers. The ship will carry goods including clothes, electronic products and mechanical products to the main harbors including Rotterdam of the Netherlands, Hamburg in Germany and Belgium's Antwerp by way of the Strait of Malacca, the Suez Canal and the Strait of Gibraltar.

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Source: Xinhua