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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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## NIMASA SET TO DISBURSE CVFF, ENFORCE SINGLE-HULL TANKER BAN

by Oluwatoyin Amao

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) said it has secured approval for the disbursement of the Cabotage Vessel Financing Fund (CVFF).

The agency also reiterated its decision to stop the use of single-hull tankers by December 31 this year.

NIMASA Director-General, Dr. Bashir Jamoh, stated this on Thursday in Lagos during a virtual meeting with members of the Shipowners Association of Nigeria (SOAN).

Jamoh said, "We are committed to the complete phase-out of single-hull tankers by December 31. Operators still using this type of tanker should make adequate preparation to comply because there will be no going back on this decision.

"We have discussed the timeline for discontinuing the use of single-hull tankers and were given five years to comply with the ban, which is, to all intents and purposes, a generous allowance.

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## FUEL SCARCITY LOOMS AS TANKER DRIVERS SUSPEND SERVICE IN LAGOS

by Ships & Ports

The Nigeria Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) has directed petroleum tanker drivers to withdraw their services from Lagos State with effect from Monday.

NUPENG said on Friday that the directive followed the failure of various authorities in the state to address three major issues that had severely caused petroleum tanker drivers pains and harrowing experiences in the state for several months now.

It said this in a statement with the title 'NUPENG leadership directs withdrawal of services by petroleum tanker drivers in Lagos State with effect from Monday, August 10, 2020.'

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## FG ENGAGES CHINESE FIRM TO BUILD SHIPYARD IN BAYELSA

by Michael Eboh

The Federal Government has engaged China Harbour Engineering Company for the construction of a shipyard in Brass Island, Bayelsa State.

In a statement in Abuja, Saturday, the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board, NCDMB, said the feasibility study for the project had commenced, adding that when completed, the shipyard would cater for the maintenance and repair services of cargo vessels, oil tankers, and Liquefied Natural Gas, LNG, carriers.

The NCDMB disclosed that there are currently over 20,000 ships working for the oil and gas sector in Nigerian waters, with an annual spend of over \$600 million in the upstream sector to engage these vessels.

The NCDMB said it would provide funding for the feasibility study as part of its overarching mandate to domicile key oil and gas industry infrastructure and increase retention of industry spend.

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*Managing Director/CEO of Sea Transport Services, Mallam Aminu Umar*

## CHINA TO PROMOTE TIANJIN PORT AS AN INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING HUB

*by Ships & Ports*

China's National Development and Reform Commission and Ministry of Transport jointly issued guidelines to speed up Tianjin's development to be an international shipping hub in north China.

The aim is by 2025, Tianjin's position as the international shipping hub in north China will become more prominent, with it striving to be one of the top 20 international shipping hubs.

The port aims to achieve 560m tonnes cargo throughput and 22million TEU container throughput by 2025 and make breakthroughs in terms of intelligent and green port construction.

According to the guidelines, Tianjin will promote professional terminals construction, improve public shipping channel navigation capacity and promote port facility construction for large size vessels, as well as multi-model transportation capacity improvement.

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PHOTO CREDIT: Fleetmon

## MARITIME SECURITY: WHY NPA'S DIRECTIVE CANCELLING SAA OPERATION FAILED — OPERATOR

*by Tola Adenubi*

The immediate past President of the Nigeria Ship-owners Association (NISA) and Managing Director/CEO of Sea Transport Services, Mallam Aminu Umar has revealed that the reason ships still drop anchor at the Secure Anchorage Area (SAA) despite an order by the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) that it stop operation is because many of the vessels that visit Nigeria ports have contractual obligations to insurance companies which restricts them (ships) to the Ocean Marine Solution Limited (OMSL) controlled anchorage on arrival.

Speaking exclusively with the Tribune Online in his office in Lagos, Mallam Aminu Umar stated that, "Yes, vessels still berth at the SAA. The SAA is located between 10 to 15 miles away from the Lagos anchorage. OMSL ensured that the SAA is secured with patrol boats and other vessels, but SAA is not the only place where we have patrol boats. We also have patrol boats patrolling the Lagos anchorage area. The difference between them is that while SAA is like a private car park, the Lagos anchorage is like a public space. While vessels pay to stay in the SAA, the Lagos anchorage is free."

On why vessels still prefer to stay in the SAA where they pay instead of staying in the Lagos anchorage area where they won't pay to stay, the Sea Transport Services boss explained that many vessels that call at Nigerian ports are under contractual obligation by their insurance companies not to go beyond the port of Lome,

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## MAURITIUS – MW WAKASHIO OIL SPILL

*by APO Group*

Mauritius' Prime Minister, Pravind Jugnauth, declared a "state of environmental emergency" on 7 August, after a ship that ran aground off the coast of the island nation began spilling oil.

The bulk carrier vessel, MW Wakashio, was carrying nearly 4,200 metric tons of fuel when it ran aground on the reef of Point d'Esny on 25 July.

The ship is located near ecologically sensitive and important areas, including the Point d'Esny Wetlands, Ile aux Aigrettes Nature Reserve, Blue Bay Marine Area and Mahebourg Fishing Reserves.

The Government of Mauritius has called for international support to respond to the crisis.

Salvage efforts have been complicated by poor weather conditions, which are expected to deteriorate on 9 August.

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