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IN THIS ISSUE NEWS WITHIN OUR SHORES

FG AGENCIES MOVE TO ENFORCE 24 HOURS PORT OPERATION

NCDMB, NLNG TO DRIVE BRASS SHIPYARD PROJECT. COMMENCE FEASIBILITY STUDY

NIGERIA CONVICTS FIRST PIRATES UNDER NEW MARITIME LAW

NPA RECEIVES LARGEST CONTAINER VESSEL EVER AT ONNE PORTS

FOREIGN WATCH

VIETNAMESE SHIP RUNS AGROUND OFF PHILIPPINES AFTER OFFICER ON WATCH FALLS ASLEEP

MAURITIUS - MW WAKASHIO OIL SPILL

FG AGENCIES MOVE TO **ENFORCE 24 HOURS** PORT OPERATION

by Eromosele Abiodun and Oluchi Chibuzor

Following the Executive Order on ease of doing business across the nation's seaports that was signed by the Vice President, Prof Yemi Oshinbajo in 2017, heads of federal government agencies in the maritime sector have resolved to implement actionable plans towards a 24 hours port operations.

agencies, which include Nigerian Maritime The Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Nigerian Port Authority (NPA), National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA), and the Nigerian Shippers' Council (NSC), disclosed this at the second meeting of all the heads of maritime parastatals in the country in Lagos, recently.

They believed that port efficiency and effectiveness cannot be achieved without integration and synergy of stakeholders in the maritime sector.

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NIGERIA CONVICTS FIRST PIRATES UNDER NEW **MARITIME LAW**

by Hellenic Shipping News Worldwide

A Nigerian court made the first convictions under a new anti-piracy law, giving hope to the world's shipping fleets that legal reforms will help stem rising attacks in the Gulf of Guinea.

The three men fined by the court in Port Harcourt, Nigeria's oil hub, on Tuesday were among nine accused of hijacking the tanker MV Elobey VI off Equatorial Guinea in March and securing a \$200,000 ransom for the crew.

The merchant shipping industry has long pressed Nigeria to take action in the area, which has been dubbed "pirate alley."

NCDMB, NLNG TO DRIVE **BRASS SHIPYARD PROJECT, COMMENCE** FEASIBILITY STUDY

by Collins Olayinka

The Federal Government has commenced a feasibility study for the construction of a shipyard in Brass Island, Bayelsa State, which would cater for the maintenance and repair services of cargo vessels, oil tankers, and LNG carriers.

The Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Timipre Sylva, who chaired the kick-off meeting, hinted that the project would be executed by China Harbour Engineering, which had carried out similar tasks across the globe as well as in Nigeria.

The scope of the feasibility study includes geotechnical and bathymetric surveys, conducting a market study, ascertaining an optimal construction developing technical proposal scale. and construction plan and estimation of the required investment to bring the project into reality.

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The Maerskline Stardelhorn vessel that arrived Onne with Length overall of 300 metres, width of 48 metres and capacity of 9,971(TEUs).

VIETNAMESE SHIP RUNS AGROUND OFF PHILIPPINES AFTER OFFICER ON WATCH FALLS ASLEEP

by Ships & Ports

A Vietnam-flagged cargo vessel ran aground in the waters between Nagubat Island and Liwagao Island in Antique, the Philippines, on 13 August 2020, the Philippine Coast Guard said.

As informed, the 4,400 dwt Globe 6 with 25 crew onboard was on its way to Davao City from Ho Chi Minh City to deliver rice cargo when the incident occurred.

"PCG personnel immediately proceeded to said vicinity waters to inspect the vessel for possible damages that may cause oil spill and to conduct initial inquiry about the cause of the maritime incident," the coast guard added.

PCG divers aboard the patrol vessel BRP Cape Engaño (MRRV-4411) have been sent to the scene to inspect the condition of the vessel's hull.

"According to Captain Nguyen Hoai, skipper of MV Globe 6, their Officer On Watch (OOW) fell asleep when the maritime incident happened," the PCG informed in an update.

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This aerial picture taken on August 16, 2020, shows the MV Wakashio bulk carrier that had run aground and broke into two parts near Blue Bay Marine Park, Mauritius. A ship that has leaked more than 1,000 tonnes of oil in pristine waters off the Mauritius coast has split into two, its Japanese operator said August 16, 2020. STRINGER / AFP

NPA RECEIVES LARGEST CONTAINER VESSEL EVER AT ONNE PORTS

by Punch Ng

The Nigerian Ports Authority on Sunday announced the berthing of the biggest container vessel to ever dock at a Nigerian port. General Manager, Corporate and Strategic Communications, Mr. Adams Jatto, made the announcement in a statement in Lagos.

Jatto said the Maerskline Stardelhorn vessel, with length overall of 300 metres, width of 48 metres was received at the Federal Ocean Terminal, Onne, Rivers State, at 16:20 hours on August 15.

He added that the vessel, which had a capacity of 9,971(TEUs) was a flagship from Singapore. "The vessel, which was brought in from Fairway Bouy Bonny, with the aid of three Tugboats, operated by three of NPA's pilots was received by the Manager of the Onne Ports, Mr Alhasssan Abubakar.

"NPA is delighted to state that the landmark arrival of the biggest gearless Maerskline vessel at Onne Ports is a result of management's determination to improve the patronage of the Eastern Ports.

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SHIP THAT OOZED OIL OFF MAURITIUS COAST SPLITS IN TWO

by AFP

A ship that has leaked more than 1,000 tonnes of oil in pristine waters off the Mauritius coast has split into two, its Japanese operator said Sunday.

The bulk carrier MK Wakashio ran aground on a coral reef off the southeastern coast of Mauritius on July 25 and began oozing oil more than a week later, threatening a protected marine park boasting mangrove forests and endangered species.

Mauritius declared an environmental emergency and salvage crews raced against the clock to pump the remaining 3,000 tonnes of oil off the ship.

"It was confirmed on August 15 that the vessel has broken into two," the ship's operator Mitsui OSK Lines said in a statement, noting that the information came from the vessel's owner, Nagashiki Shipping.

The split was caused by a crack in a cargo hold on its stern side, Mitsui said.

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