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NIMASA ISSUES THREE-MONTH ULTIMATUM TO CABOTAGE TRADE OPERATORS

by Tola Adenubi

The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) has issued a three-month ultimatum to companies engaged in cabotage trade in Nigeria to register all vessels used in coastal and inland waters trade.

In addition to registration in the applicable Special Register for Cabotage Vessels and Ship Owning companies, and obtaining the Certificate of Cabotage Registration/License, operators with expired registration certificates are to ensure the renewal of their Cabotage Operational Certificate/License for all Cabotage vessels within three months.

In a statement signed by the agency Spokesman, Philip Kyanet on Sunday, NIMASA said that at the expiration of the three months, it would notify relevant government authorities and International Oil Companies (IOCs) to bar vessels without valid cabotage certificates.

Quoting the NIMASA Director General, Bashir Jamoh shortly after the agency released a Marine Notice to announce the decision, the statement disclosed that the notice was part of efforts to ensure strict enforcement of the Coastal and Inland Shipping (Cabotage) Act 2003 and Guidelines on Implementation of the Coastal and Inland Shipping (Cabotage) Act 2003.

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CROSS RIVER STATE GOVT. AND CANADIAN FIRM SIGN AGREEMENT TO DEVELOP BAKASSI DEEP SEAPORT

by Samson Abayomi

The construction of the Bakassi Deep Seaport has attained a major milestone with the signing of the transaction advisory agreement for the full business case, between the Cross River State Government and CPCS Transcom Limited of Canada.

CPCS is expected to deploy its expertise in the areas of transaction structuring, public-private partnerships, financial and economic modeling, as well as engineering, social and environmental advisory in the execution of the project.

To ensure compliance with Nigeria's local content policy, 15 young Cross River indigenes are to be engaged by the Canadian firm.

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NSC TARGETS FULL DIGITALISATION OF NIGERIAN PORTS BY 2021

by Hellenic Shipping News Worldwide

The Nigerian Shippers' Council (NSC) has announced that it is perfecting plans to ensure that cargo clearing processes and all other port transactions are carried out online by first quarter (Q1) of 2021.

The Executive Secretary of the NSC, Hassan Bello, who disclosed this in a chat with newsmen in Lagos, said Nigerian port is presently operating at 65 per cent digital.

However, he said there are certain transactions such as bill of lading and other invoicing that are not generated online.

Bello, who noted that most of the terminals and shipping companies are already doing 85 per cent of their transactions online, said there is need for every operator to come onboard because the outbreak of Covid-19 has shown that it is very dangerous for people to gather at the terminals.

"We are meeting with shipping companies, terminal operators and the banks to harmonise and integrate the cargo clearing processes at ports. We need to make our port efficient."

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Minister of State for Transportation, Gbemisola Saraki

DUMPING SOLID WASTE IN WATERWAYS DESTROYING MARITIME ENVIRONMENT - SARAKI

by Daily Trust

The Minister of State for Transportation, Gbemisola Saraki, has urged International Oil Companies (IOC) to desist from dumping solid waste into the nation's waterways, saying such actions could jeopardize the future of the maritime environment.

The Minister, in her welcome address, which she delivered at the 2020 World Maritime Day Celebration held in Lagos last Thursday also urged the public to imbibite habit that is friendly to the oceans and seas.

Saraki, who was represented by Dr Magdalene Ajani, the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Transportation, said to prevent such, it was imperative for the country to adopt an internationally acceptable standard.

She said it was important for the government and private sector to work together to make the sector to function productively.

Chairperson, House Committee on Maritime Safety, Education and Administration, Lynda Ikpeazu, said the House of Representatives would give the required legislative framework and measures to ensure a sustainable maritime sector.

She noted that the theme, 'Sustainable Shipping for a Sustainable Planet: The Nigerian Dimension', cannot be more apt in this period as the world experiences the negative effects of climate change.

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IMO WEBSITE HIT BY CYBER ATTACK

by Jite Eriabie

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) said on Thursday that its website and intranet had been disabled by a sophisticated cyber attack and its IT specialists had shut down key systems to prevent further damage.

This is a crucial time for the IMO, which is responsible for regulating shipping and is currently working on ways to reduce carbon emissions from the sector, with a virtual session of its Maritime Environmental Protection Committee slated to take place later this year.

The IMO said services had been affected since Wednesday Sept. 30, especially on its website, www.imo.org. It said it was working with United Nations IT experts to resolve the attack.

"The interruption of service was caused by a sophisticated cyber attack against the organization's IT systems that overcame robust security measures in place. IMO IT technicians shut down key systems to prevent further damage from the attack," it said in a statement, adding it was "enhancing systems to prevent recurrence."

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IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim, PHOTO CREDIT: IMO

DRONE DELIVERS PACKAGE TO INLAND VESSEL IN PORT OF ROTTERDAM

by Ship & Ports

Dutch Drone Delta held a new trial during which a drone delivered a package to the inland vessel Duancis.

During this operation on Monday, Duancis was moving at normal speed along the waterway near Brieneoord Island. This was the second of a series of trial flights with delivery drones in the port of Rotterdam.

Earlier this year, a drone delivered a package to the deck of the offshore vessel Pioneering Spirit, while it was moored at Maasvlakte's Alexiahaven. The flights are intended to determine whether drone deliveries can increase efficiency in the port of Rotterdam, as well as simplify circulation in the port area for its users.

Drone development is in full swing, and this technology could well have a major impact on traffic and transport. New European regulations have cleared the way for new applications. Ultimately, this may even include autonomous unmanned freight and passenger transport. To this end, the next few years will be devoted to the phased preparation of airspace and drone technology.

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