

N-SACC

SEPTEMBER 2025

A Publication of The Nigeria-South Africa Chamber of Commerce



**MEDIA AS A BRIDGE IN STRENGTHENING
NIGERIA-SOUTH AFRICA TIES THROUGH THE
MTN MEDIA INNOVATION PROGRAMME**



Editorial



The August 2025 Breakfast Forum of the Nigeria–South Africa Chamber of Commerce (NSACC) was successfully held on Thursday, 27 August 2025, with the generous sponsorship of MTN Nigeria.

The Forum featured Tobe Okigbo, Chief Corporate Services and Sustainability Officer, MTN Nigeria, as the Keynote Speaker, while Dr. Ikechukwu Obiaya, Dean, School of Media and Communication, Pan-Atlantic University, delivered the Guest Address.

A distinguished panel of media professionals enriched the conversation, including:

Amarachi Ubani, Diplomatic Editor, Channels Television; Akinkunmi Oakeye, Business Reporter, CNBC Nigeria; Nifemi Oguntoye, Deputy Head of Programmes & Lead Anchor, TVC News; Oluwadunsi Sanyo, Head of Editorial & Innovation, BellaNaija; Elizabeth Musa, Programme Lead & Anchor, BusinessDay TV.

The session focused on the theme: “Media as a Bridge: Strengthening Nigeria–South Africa Ties through the MTN Media Innovation Programme.” The presentations and discussions were well received by participants, sparking insightful dialogue on cross-border collaboration.

During his keynote address, Tobe Okigbo emphasized the critical role of the media in shaping perceptions, narratives, and public discourse. He noted that the media is not merely a communication platform but a powerful vehicle for influence—capable of interpreting the complex dynamics of Nigeria–South Africa relations, promoting cultural understanding,

and fostering business partnerships built on trust.

In his presentation, Dr. Ikechukwu Obiaya described the Media Innovation Programme (MIP) as a forward-looking initiative designed to empower journalists—not only as storytellers, but as continental connectors driving meaningful engagement across Africa.

The panel discussion, expertly moderated by Elizabeth Musa of BusinessDay TV, explored both the opportunities and challenges of leveraging media as a tool for deeper collaboration between Nigeria and South Africa.

In addition, the Nigerian News segment highlighted key developments within Nigeria's economic landscape relevant to our members, while the South African News segment featured selected updates with potential implications for business strategy and operations.

We sincerely appreciate your continued support and commitment to our shared goals. Your engagement strengthens our network and amplifies the impact of our collective efforts. We value your partnership and wish your organization continued success throughout the year and beyond.

Warm regards,



Lyke Ejimofor

OFFICERS OF THE CHAMBER		EDITORIAL TEAM	Secretariat Contact Details
Dr. Oba Otudeko (CFR) Life Patron	Tobechukwu Okigbo Director	Lyke Ejimofor 01 4538571	Flat 4B, Manuwa Court Apartment 5, Manuwa Street Off Keffi Street, S.W. Ikoyi Tel: 01 4538571, 01 4538572
Dr. Ije Jidenma, FNM, FCIPM, DF, CIBD Chairman	Ohis Ehimiaghe Director	Akinyode Olugbenga 08050438838	Email: iykeejimofor@nsacc.org.ng nsacc@nsacc.org.ng www.nsacc.org.ng
Ajibola Olomola Vice Chairman	Foluso Phillips Ex-Officio Director	Elizabeth Joyegbe-Oyeleke 08053581484	
Giwa Osagie & Co Legal Adviser	Osayaba Giwa-Osagie, Ex Officio Director	Adeola Bakare (Advert) 08081683992	
Zoe Omonkhogbe Treasurer	Wole Adeniyi Director		
	Lyke Ejimofor Executive Secretary		

NIGERIA NATIONAL ANTHEM

Nigeria we hail thee,
Our own dear native land,
Though tribe and tongue may differ,
In brotherhood, we stand,
Nigerians all, and proud to serve
Our sovereign Motherland.

Our flag shall be a symbol
That truth and justice reign,
In peace or battle honour'd,
And this we count as gain,
To hand on to our children
A banner without stain.

O God of all creation,
Grant this our one request,
Help us to build a nation
Where no man is oppressed,
And so with peace and plenty
Nigeria may be blessed.

SOUTH AFRICA NATIONAL ANTHEM

Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo,
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho,
O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,
Setjhaba sa, South Afrika -South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel,
Uit die diepte van ons see,
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
Waar die kranse antwoord gee,

Sounds the call to come together,
And united we shall stand,
Let us live and strive for freedom,
In South Africa our land.

NIGERIA-SOUTH AFRICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
We thank you for your consistent support and commitment.

Please note that ONLY Paid-up members will be entitled to all privileges. We therefore implore members to pay their outstanding subscriptions.

CHAMBER'S BREAKFAST MEETINGS Companies interested in Sponsorship opportunities are to please contact the Secretariat. This is a great opportunity for advertising, as companies can brand the hall according to their preference. Companies are assured of good media coverage.

CHAMBER'S NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE ADVERTS

Companies interested in advertising in our Newsletter and website are to please contact the Secretariat. This is a great opportunity for projecting your companies to Nigerians and South African Communities. Companies are assured of good coverage.

UPCOMING SOUTH AFRICAN PROGRAMMES

CHAMBER'S NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE ADVERTS

Companies interested in advertising in our Newsletter and website are to please contact the Secretariat. This is a great opportunity for projecting your companies to Nigerians and South African Communities. Companies are assured of good coverage.

5TH WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR SPORT MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The Sport Management Department in the School of Management Sciences at the North-West University and the Cape Peninsula University of Technology's Sport Management Department are leading the way in enhancing and expanding Sport Management within the South African landscape. Both institutions are committed to developing research-informed teaching and learning in Sport Management with a strong focus on technology integration within the transformed higher educational landscape.

The NWU and CPUT actively engage with industry and academic partners to advance sport management education, scholarship and practice and believe that hosting the WASM 2026 will provide a forum for sports management research experts and industry leaders to exchange ideas, provide solutions and create networks for enhanced future collaborations. South Africa is a sport-crazy nation, with numerous sporting codes widely supported at local, national and international levels. The sports activities within the Western Cape Province are supported by good infrastructure and governance and the beautiful Cape Town area provides the ideal setting for an unforgettable conference experience.

Hosting the 5th WASM conference will provide numerous stimuli for teaching and research in Sports Business Management within the African context. The influx of international experts within the field will contribute to expanding the South African knowledge and research field, impacting lecturers, students, sports organisations, local and provincial sporting organisations, sports events and educational institutions that engage with this prestigious international event.

The South African WASM legacy will enhance innovative and interdisciplinary solutions to challenges in contemporary sport management. Likewise, postgraduate students and leadership within the national sports management fraternity will enjoy long-lasting international collaborations aiding the sustainability of sport management research and practice.

We are looking forward to meeting you at the 5th World Association for Sport Management Conference in Cape Town.

Date: 3-6 March 2026

Venue: Newlands Cricket Grounds, Cape Town

GLOBAL BANKING & MARKETS AFRICA 2026

We convene complex and comprehensive groups of deal practitioners in streamlined meetings that accelerate transactions.

Attendance at Global Banking & Markets events is considered imperative as more than 10,000+ deal practitioners return each year, in ever-growing numbers. Global deal making is becoming more challenging; shareholder and customer expectations can misalign; regulation is increasingly fragmented; and geopolitical circumstances continue to fluctuate dramatically. Our events and meeting services reduce the cost, inefficiency and risk of complex multi-party transactions. Since our first events in the Gulf in 2010, we have developed a deep knowledge in markets with rising economic influence including Central Asia, CEE, Africa, Latin America, Saudi Arabia, The Middle East and Türkiye.

We are the no. 1 business meetings facilitator for Africa's capital markets. This is Africa's largest and most..

16 Mar, 2026 - 17 Mar, 2026

Cape Town International Convention Centre

AFRICA ENERGY WEEK FORUM

African Energy Week (AEW) is the African Energy Chamber's annual event, uniting African energy leaders, global investors and executives from across the public and private sector for four days of intense dialogue on the future of the African energy industry. An interactive conference, exhibition and networking event, AEW was established in 2021 under the premise to make energy poverty history by 2030, hosting panel discussions, investor forums, industry summits and one-on-one meeting opportunities, and driving the discussions that will reshape the trajectory of the continent's energy development.

In 2025, the event returns bigger and better than ever before, serving as the official meeting place for Africa's energy elite. At the forefront of the African energy industry, AEW promotes the role Africa plays in global energy matters, centered around African-led dialogue and decision making. Covering the entire energy sector and value chain, AEW represents the only conference on the continent representative of the entire sector.

Instead of dwelling on the challenges hindering development, AEW focuses on integration and collaboration to reverse Africa's resource curse and support energy explorers and producers across the continent. When we support upstream, midstream and downstream projects, we support jobs, we create growth, we promote gender equality, and we drive innovation that brings solutions for our future. Recognizing that the

energy transition is shaping the global dialogue, AEW promotes the African position on the future of Africa's energy sector. By advocating personal responsibility, free markets, individual liberty and an enabling environment for investors, AEW ensures that Africa's oil and natural gas industry and Africans stand to benefit, rather than continuing a reliance on foreign aid and assistance. The event is slated for 3rd October 2026

CTICC Conference Centre, Cape Town. For further information contact sales@aecweek.com

Payments & Fintech MARKETING INDABA

9-12 February 2026; CTICC, Cape Town - 9am to 4pm

Stay up to date with the latest marketing trends, ideas and strategies at our Marketing Conference

This popular Marketing Conference will again inspire and assist the marketing and communication industry with its annual edition. This year the two-day LIVE conference will be presented in Cape Town at the CTICC. The conference promises to inform and inspire both the professional marketer as well as those keen to get fresh ideas on marketing their products and services.

Delegates will get the opportunity to listen to 14+ marketers and industry leaders covering an array of current topics of the marketing discipline at the Marketing Conference - Marketing Indaba. For further information contact: info@cadek.co.za

AFRICAN MINING WEEK (AMW) 2026

Africa is not just a mining powerhouse—it is the engine of the future. As global industries shift toward advanced manufacturing, clean energy and high-tech innovation, Africa's vast reserves of minerals position the continent at the heart of industrial transformation. The inaugural African Mining Week (AMW) 2025 will be the definitive platform to accelerate investment, technology adoption, and sustainable growth in Africa's mining sector.

From October 1–3, 2026, at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, AMW will bring together stakeholders from across Africa and around the world to drive meaningful conversations, forge partnerships and unlock the continent's mining potential. For further information visit: <https://african-miningweek.com>

Iyke Ejimofor

Executive Secretary
Nigeria-South Africa Chamber of Commerce

Flat 4B, Manuwa Court Apartment
5, Manuwa Street
Off Keffi Street, S.W. Ikoyi

Tel: 01-4538571, 01-4538572

Email:

iykeejimofor@nsacc.org.ng

nsacc@nsacc.org.ng

www.nsacc.org.ng



Pan-African Media Innovation Programme (MIP) MTN Group Launch



MEDIA AS A BRIDGE IN STRENGTHENING NIGERIA-SOUTH AFRICA TIES THROUGH THE MTN MEDIA INNOVATION PROGRAMME

It was more than a breakfast meeting. It was history, diplomacy, and the future all served on one table at the Eko Hotel & Suites, Victoria Island, Lagos, recently, as the Nigeria-South Africa Chamber of Commerce (NSACC) marked its 25th Anniversary.

For a quarter of a century, the Chamber has been a beacon of bilateral cooperation, deepening trade, investment, and cultural ties between two of Africa's economic giants.

Founded in May 2000, the NSACC has grown from a modest membership of just 15 to over 270 Corporate members, cutting across diverse sectors—telecommunications, finance, media, energy,

manufacturing, hospitality, and beyond.

This landmark edition of the iconic NSACC Breakfast Forum—a monthly gathering that has consistently had several sessions since inception—was sponsored by MTN Nigeria and themed: “Media as a Bridge in Strengthening Nigeria-South Africa Ties through the MTN Media Innovation Programme.

A Legacy of Bilateral Impact

In her welcome remarks, NSACC Chairperson Dr. Ije Jidenma captured the essence of the meeting. Describing the Chamber's 25-year journey as “one of vision, resilience, and relentless pursuit of stronger ties between Nigeria and South Africa,” she emphasized that the

Breakfast Forums have become “iconic platforms” for shaping conversations around trade, diplomacy, and cultural exchange.

“Our mission has always been to promote mutually beneficial partnerships,” Dr. Jidenma noted. “We are not just observers of progress, but architects of it.”

She commended MTN for not only sponsoring the forum but demonstrated “a deep and strategic commitment to innovation, talent development, and continental collaboration.”

The Media as a Catalyst

The highlight of the anniversary forum was the exploration of the media as a bridge between Nigeria and South Africa, spearheaded by MTN's Media Innovation Programme (MIP) in partnership



with the Pan-Atlantic University's School of Media and Communication.

Delivering a keynote, Tobe Okigbo, Chief Corporate Services and Sustainability Officer of MTN Nigeria, stressed that media plays a crucial role in shaping perceptions, shaping narratives, and driving public discourse.

“The media is not just a platform for communication—it is a powerful vehicle for influence. It can help interpret the complex dynamics of Nigeria-South Africa relations, promote cultural respect, and support business partnerships rooted in trust,” Okigbo said.

Adding an academic perspective, Dr. Ikechukwu Obiaya, Dean of the School of Media and Communication at Pan-Atlantic University, described the MIP as an initiative designed to empower journalists not just as storytellers but as continental connectors.

The panel discussion, moderated by Elizabeth Musa of BusinessDay TV, brought together seasoned voices including Amarachi Ubani (Channels TV), Nifemi Oguntoye (TVC News), Oluwadunsin Sanyo (Bella Naija) and Akinkunmi Obakeye (CNBC Africa). Together, they unpacked the opportunities and challenges of using the media as a tool for deeper collaboration between the two nations.

Diplomatic Realities and Honest Conversations

The gathering was also marked by candid remarks from Prof. Bobby Moroe, Acting High Commissioner of South Africa to Nigeria, who did

not shy away from addressing sensitive issues around visas, perceptions of xenophobia, and cultural misunderstandings.

He acknowledged the frustrations Nigerians face in securing South African visas but explained that high application volumes and documentation lapses often fuel delays. Importantly, he challenged the narrative of “xenophobia” being exclusively tied to South Africa, calling it a “media-created nomenclature” that oversimplifies deeper socio-economic realities.

“If we truly want to change the narrative, we must disabuse ourselves of stereotypes. Culture and understanding are key. The more we appreciate each other's backgrounds—language, food, traditions—the easier it will be to co-exist as partners rather than rivals,” Prof. Moroe said.

His frankness drew applause from attendees, symbolizing the Chamber's role as a safe space for uncomfortable but necessary conversations.

25 Years of Growth, 25 Years of Influence

Reflecting on its achievements, the Chamber recalled milestones such as:

- Over 100 trade missions and bilateral business forums.
- Advocacy platforms linking private sector voices with governments.
- Supporting the entry of major South African companies into Nigeria, including MTN, Multichoice, and Shoprite.
- Facilitating Nigerian businesses' expansion into South Africa.

- Sustaining nearly 250 uninterrupted Breakfast Meetings since inception.

With these achievements, NSACC has positioned itself as Africa's most resilient bilateral chamber of commerce, bridging two powerhouse economies.

Looking Forward: A Continental Vision

In a forward-looking address, the Chamber unveiled its four new strategic pillars:

1. Membership Growth and Engagement.
2. Brand Visibility and Influence.
3. Trade Expansion.
4. Advocacy and Policy Impact.

“We have reached a point of reflection,” the leadership declared. “The next 25 years must not just be about Nigeria and South Africa, but about Africa's place in the global economy. Together, our stories can shape a stronger continent.”

Why It Matters

At 25, NSACC is more than a chamber—it is a living story of continental integration. Its insistence on dialogue, cultural understanding, and business partnerships has set the tone for how Nigeria and South Africa—Africa's biggest democracies and economies—can rise above rivalry and stereotypes to drive prosperity.

And at the heart of this future lies the media—a bridge not only between Lagos and Johannesburg, but between Africa and the world.



NIGERIAN NEWS

FG COMMITTED TO PORT DEVELOPMENT—OYETOLA

Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola, has reiterated the Federal Government's commitment to support port development in Nigeria.

Oyetola made this pledge during a meeting with the management of International Container Terminal Services (ICTSI) in Abuja

The visit was part of ongoing engagements aimed at deepening collaboration between the Federal Government and the private sector in advancing Nigeria's maritime and blue economy agenda.

During the meeting, the minister expressed his appreciation for ICTSI's investments in Nigeria's maritime sector, particularly in the Onne Multipurpose Terminal, which according to him, has significantly improved cargo handling efficiency and reduced vessel turnaround time.

Oyetola stated that the Federal Government is committed to creating an enabling environment for private sector participation in the maritime industry, adding that efforts are being made to address the challenges facing port operations in the country.

The ICTSI team, led by Hon. Farouk Adamu Aliyu, Chairman of ICTSI Nigeria, included Mr. Hans Ole Madsen, Vice President; Mr. Nicolo Scannavini, Managing Director of Onne Multipurpose Terminal (OMT); and Mr. Chidi

Nzerem, Director.

Discussions during the meeting focused on the current operational developments at OMT and explored strategies for its future expansion and efficiency enhancement in line with the Federal Government's vision for a vibrant and sustainable blue economy.

Oyetola commended ICTSI for its investments and contributions to Nigeria's maritime growth, emphasizing the Ministry's readiness to sustain a business-friendly environment that encourages private sector participation and innovation across the sector.

Since commencing operations in 2021, ICTSI's Onne Multipurpose Terminal has played a transformative role in boosting cargo throughput and reducing vessel turnaround time at the Onne Port Complex in Rivers State.

The terminal, designed to handle a diverse range of cargo — including containers, break bulk, project and heavy-lift, and roll-on/roll-off cargo — features a 1,000-metre heavy-lift quay, 45 hectares of yard area, modern warehousing, and four new Gottwald mobile harbour cranes, among other state-of-the-art equipment.

In June 2025, OMT made history when it received the Kota Oasis, a Singaporean-flagged, LNG-powered container ship — the first of its kind to berth in West Africa. The vessel's arrival, operated by Pacific International Lines (PIL),

marked a milestone in the region's shift toward environmentally sustainable shipping and underscored OMT's commitment to green port operations.

FG LAUNCHES NATIONAL DIGITAL TRUSTMARK FOR ONLINE COMPANIES

The Federal Government has launched National Digital Trustmark for online companies in collaboration with key government institutions like the Corporate Affairs Commission, (CAC) the Central Bank of Nigeria, (CBN) and the Nigerian Communications Commission, NCC.

The Trustmark would curb online frauds, identity theft, scamming and forgery and ensure trust, competitiveness, integrity and confidence in Nigeria online and digital business platforms.

The Director General of the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) Malam Kashifu Inuwa announced this in Abuja at a news conference, saying that the National Digital Trustmark has become imperative considering the concerns globally over online and e-commerce business activities with Nigerians and in Nigeria.

Inuwa said it was saddening for Nigerians to be classified as scammers and fraudsters especially in relation to how online businesses are conducted, stating that there were times citizens would make payments for goods



NIGERIAN NEWS

online only to be blocked thereafter, or cases where whatever citizens purchased online were not delivered according to specifications.

He said the National Digital Trustmark is being facilitated by the German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ) and the National Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture, (NACIMMA) to care of challenges in the sector.

He explained that it would come in form of a security seal granted by NITDA for certification and authentication of online or digital business outfits. The security seal would be embossed on the platforms, letters heads and pages for authentication and identification as true registered companies or entities operating in Nigeria with at least one known office.

He announced that the initiative, though not compulsory would come with charges depending on the size of the business entities and their areas of specialisations, while the portal would be open next for outfits to commence registration.

Inuwa announced at the conference which was attended by the president of NACIMMA, Engr Tijani Ibrahim and Representative of GIZ, Barrister Chinedu that the renewal of the Trustmark digital certification would be done yearly to ensure transparency and accountability of the entire process. He said both the public and private sectors with

online businesses would be eligible for the security seal, emphasising that the initiative would eliminate fraud, scams and illicit transactions on Nigeria digital space.

He lamented that online frauds have given Nigeria a bad reputation on the global stage, stating that this happened even when it had been established that some foreign nationals were behind some of the frauds.

The President of NACIMMA, Engr Ibrahim who was represented by his Special Adviser on Digital Economy Trade Group Mr Suleiman A. Audu, said the seal mark a major step towards building a safer, more trusted and globally competitive digital economy for Nigeria.

He assured that NACIMMA in collaboration with other stakeholders especially SMEDAN, NAFDAC, SON, among others, would ensure seamless implementation of the policy, saying that it would be devoid of bureaucratic bottlenecks and other impediments.

FG UNVEILS AGRIC REFORMS, MOVES TO CREATE 21M JOBS

The Federal Government reeled out a slew of new incentives to attract agricultural investment, which it said could create 21 million jobs in the country.

It also pledged reforms to expand irrigation, improve access to credit and create millions of rural jobs under President Bola Tinubu's

economic agenda.

Vice President Kashim Shettima outlined the plans at the Food and Agriculture Organisation's National and Subregional Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum in Abuja, calling hunger "the great equaliser that reveals our vulnerabilities and the shared fragility of our existence."

Senior Special Assistant to the Vice President on Media and Communications, Stanley Nkwocha, revealed details of Tuesday's meeting in a statement titled, 'More incentives farmers as FG unveils new agric investment incentives.'

The measures include single-window platforms for land registration, strengthened agricultural credit systems, large-scale mechanisation, and strategic irrigation projects.

Tuesday's unveiling comes as rising food prices and climate shocks have intensified calls for long-term investment in the sector.

Nigeria has been under pressure to cut its reliance on imports and address food insecurity, which worsened after fuel subsidy removal and currency reforms deepened inflation in 2023.

Shettima said Nigeria had the capacity to irrigate more than three million hectares of farmland but currently uses less than 10 percent of that potential.

"Strategic investment in irrigation alone could triple yields, free us from seasonal dependency, and



NIGERIAN NEWS

fortify our resilience against climate shocks,” he stated.

“Nothing unifies humanity as much as hunger. It is the great equaliser that reveals our vulnerabilities and the shared fragility of our existence.

“Food is not merely a matter of survival, it is a matter of global security,” Shettima added.

The Vice President noted that Nigeria's blueprint under the 2021 – 2025 National Development Plan aims to lift 35 million people out of poverty, create 21 million jobs in rural communities and secure food and nutrition sufficiency.

Shettima specifically observed that irrigation is a game-changer, noting that Nigeria has river basins and aquifers capable of irrigating over three million hectares but currently uses less than ten per cent.

“Strategic investment in irrigation alone could triple yields, free us from seasonal dependency, and fortify our resilience against climate shocks,” he added.

He assured investors that regulatory reforms, public-private partnerships and agri-tech innovations would make Nigeria “open for business.”

“Nigeria is open for business, and we are ready to partner with you. Let us work hand-in-hand to build Nigeria and a sub-region where no one goes to bed hungry, where rural communities are hubs of wealth creation, and where agriculture is the true foundation

of our prosperity,” VP Shettima said.

Earlier, the Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Abubakar Kyari, described Nigeria's market, large arable land and growing digital economy as unique opportunities for investors.

He said a combination of Nigeria's domestic market, large arable land, clement weather and fast-growing digital economy present unique opportunities for investment across the agribusiness ecosystem.

For his part, the Minister of Budget and Economic Planning, Senator Atiku Bagudu, said the economic potential of Nigeria remains largely untapped, especially in agriculture and irrigation, which hold significant promise for economic diversification and transformation.

He noted that agriculture, particularly agribusiness, remains a pivotal component of Nigeria's national development plan in the medium and long term, as well as the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Tinubu.

For his part, the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Security of The Gambia, Dr Demba Sabally, commended the FAO for hosting the event and Nigeria's leadership in agriculture, highlighting the country's success stories in the rice and cassava value chains as worthy of emulation by countries in the sub-region and beyond.

Sabally emphasised the need for peer review among countries in the West African sub-region because of their common challenges and opportunities for growth and transformation.

In the same vein, the representative of the FAO in Nigeria and ECOWAS, Dr Hussein Gadain, said the Hand-in-Hand Initiative is FAO's “evidence-based, country-led, and country-owned flagship programme, designed to accelerate agricultural transformation and sustainable rural development.”

Gadain said the programme is squarely aimed at eradicating poverty, ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition, and reducing inequalities. It is our vehicle for achieving the SDGs.

Commending Nigeria's clear agricultural development priorities and describing them as catalysts for transformative and sustainable growth within Africa's agri-food systems, Gadain hailed Vice President Shettima's genuine commitment and visionary leadership in transforming Nigeria's agri-food systems.

According to the FAO rep, the VP's “passion for agriculture, food security, and nutrition is unmatched. He has been a driving force in attracting crucial investments and fostering innovation, and his continued engagement deserves our highest commendation.”

Also, the Head of the EU Delegation in Nigeria, Mr Gautier Mignot, said the Hand-in-Hand



NIGERIAN NEWS

Initiative reflects Nigeria's strong commitment to strengthen food security and deepen investment across the agribusiness value chain.

He declared that the EU remains Nigeria's long term partner in Nigeria's agricultural journey and is committed to investing in value chain development in the country, starting with the recent investment of over 80 million euros to unlock opportunities in key value chains across seven states.

Reacting to the announcement, farmers urged the government to back the new farm incentives with action, pointing out that the initiatives would not yield results without implementation.

The National President of the All Farmers Association of Nigeria, Kabir Kebram, stressed the need for follow-through.

"Definitely, it will boost if they are implemented. Of course, you can have a policy but unless you implement it very well, you cannot see the results. So we call on the Vice President to actualize what he promised and then to follow it up and make sure that it is properly implemented. We are sure that that will make a difference in the food system," Kebram said.

The Chairman of the Competitive African Rice Forum, Agric, Peter Dama, also cautioned against "a cycle of promises without delivery."

"Pronouncements are different

from implementation. While we welcome all these pronouncements, we are still hoping that the pronouncements will be met with practicality, that it will be implemented the way they have said it.

"Somebody can come and read a speech, but then the actual implementation is something that might take some time. They made pronouncements about tractors. Today we are in August. Have those tractors been given? Already, we are moving toward the dry season.

"Government can make statements, but the implementation might take quite some time. I believe that if pronouncements are going to be made, let the actuality be on ground, as you are making pronouncements, you are dishing them out.

"But when you make pronouncements and it takes about six months, you know the cycle of our farming session in this country. We await the implementation. We are happy if it is actually going to be done and going to be implemented or not.

We are happy, but unless we see it, and by the time we see it, we will complement and encourage the government," Dama said.

The Small-Scale Women Farmers Organisation in Nigeria faulted the Federal Government's agricultural interventions, saying they have failed to improve the country's food production.

In a phone interview with The PUNCH, National Secretary of SWOFON, Chinasa Asonye, said government efforts have not translated into meaningful impact for smallholder women farmers who form the backbone of food supply in Nigeria.

Asonye said, "Coming from the angle of a small-scale woman farmer, we know that government interventions on single-digit loans, women-friendly machines, access to land and inclusion in policies have not yielded results. One-third of what we have been advocating for has not been implemented. After developing different policies like the Malabo policy, CADI policy and WSHADA policy, are we even implementing one-third of them? The answer is no."

She decried the government's inability to meet the 10 per cent budgetary allocation to agriculture recommended under the Malabo Declaration, stressing that Nigeria currently spends less than 1.9 per cent on the sector.

"If we keep waiting for the government, we will never do anything. Some states in the North are helping their farmers with grants and support. But in the South-West, including Lagos, farmers are not benefitting from these renewed initiatives," she said.

The SWOFON secretary also questioned the transparency of the government's agricultural spending, noting that billions of naira were being earmarked

without visible results.

She added that the school feeding programme had previously helped farmers by off-taking their produce but lamented that such initiatives were no longer benefitingsmallholders.

“We will continue to talk, we will continue to tell them our issues, and probably one day the government will listen. They know our problems, but if they fail to look into them, farmers will keep struggling by themselves,” Asonye said.

CBN RESTATES PLEDGE TO DEEPEN FINANCIAL INCLUSION

The Central Bank of Nigeria has reiterated its determination to boost productivity, strengthen financial inclusion, and deliver on its core mandate of monetary and price stability.

CBN Governor, Mr Olayemi Cardoso, made this known at the opening ceremony of the CBN Fair held at the Mineet Event Centre in Kano on Tuesday. He was represented by the Acting Director, Corporate Communications Department, Mrs. Hakama Sidi Ali.

Cardoso noted that the reforms introduced by the apex bank under his leadership have already started producing tangible results, including higher inflows of foreign investment, improved trade balances, and significant progress in financial inclusion.

Highlighting some of the measures taken in the past two

years, the governor said the bank had implemented exchange rate unification to minimise arbitrage opportunities and reduce volatility in the foreign exchange market.

He added that the CBN had successfully cleared over \$7 billion in verified backlog of FX forwards, a move that has boosted investor confidence.

Other policies include the ongoing bank recapitalisation exercise aimed at strengthening the resilience and global competitiveness of Nigerian banks. This, according to him, is intended to prepare the financial system to support the Federal Government's \$1tn economy target.

The CBN has also introduced the non-resident Bank Verification Number (BVN) to enable Nigerians in the diaspora to connect more easily with the country's banking system.

Cardoso further explained that the bank launched the Nigeria Payments System Vision 2028 (PSV 2028) to accelerate digital transformation, deepen financial inclusion, and strengthen Nigeria's role in the global payments ecosystem.

To enhance transparency and protect consumers, the CBN rolled out the Unified Complaints Tracking System, which streamlines the management of complaints against financial institutions. Alongside this, the bank introduced a USSD code (*959#) for verifying licensed

institutions.

“These initiatives are designed to strengthen consumer confidence and make the Nigerian financial system more transparent and efficient,” he said.

The theme of this year's CBN Fair was “Driving Alternative Payment Channels as Tools for Financial Inclusion, Growth and Accelerated Economic Development.” Cardoso said the topic was carefully chosen to highlight the role of alternative payment platforms in catalysing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and other critical sectors in pursuit of price stability and economic growth.

He added that the fair was conceived as a platform to engage directly with members of the public on CBN policies and their impact. “The core objective of this engagement is to sensitise the public on how the bank's policies enhance their lives and livelihoods while contributing to the growth and development of the Nigerian economy,” Cardoso stated.

In her remarks, the Acting Branch Controller of the CBN in Kano, Hajia Saudatu Mohammad, reaffirmed the bank's strong commitment to financial inclusion, noting that this was a major reason for organising the fair. She said such engagements provide an avenue for the apex bank to explain its policies to Nigerians across all sectors while receiving valuable feedback.

The fair attracted participants from diverse sectors of the economy, including small

NIGERIAN NEWS

businesses, traders, professionals, and civil society groups. Attendees had the opportunity to interact with CBN officials and learn more about policies related to exchange rate management, banking reforms, financial inclusion, and consumer protection.

OYETOLA WOOS INVESTORS TO NIGERIA'S MARINE, BLUE ECONOMY

Nigeria's Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Adegboyega Oyetola has called on international investors to seize the vast opportunities in Nigeria's marine and blue economy, describing the sector as a gateway to Africa's economic transformation.

He made the call in London, United Kingdom, where he is participating in the ongoing London International Shipping Week (LISW) 2025, one of the world's premier maritime gatherings.

Speaking at the Africa Maritime and Shipping Assembly, held at the headquarters of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) as part of the LISW, Minister Oyetola, represented by the Director General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dr. Dayo Mobereola, urged investors to look beyond short-term gains and embrace the long-term benefits of investing in Nigeria's fast-evolving maritime landscape.

Delivering a keynote address on the topic "Navigating Regulatory Seas: Steering Africa's Maritime

Governance Towards Seamless Trade," he underlined Nigeria's commitment to regulatory reforms, port modernisation, maritime security, and sustainable shipping practices as critical pillars that make the country an attractive investment destination.

"Our oceans and inland waterways are our lifeblood, our highways to prosperity, and the very arteries that will fuel the African Continental Free Trade Area," Oyetola said, stressing that Nigeria is committed to unlocking the full potential of its marine resources.

He noted that the government's ambitious reforms are geared towards positioning the country as the maritime hub of West and Central Africa.

The Minister highlighted Nigeria's significant progress in maritime security, citing the success of the Deep Blue Project, which has eliminated piracy in Nigerian waters and contributed to a sharp decline in incidents across the Gulf of Guinea.

He added that Nigeria has recorded three consecutive years without piracy attacks in its territorial waters, a feat that has earned commendations from the International Maritime Bureau.

"This is proof that Nigeria is a safe destination for maritime investments. Security of our seas is non-negotiable, and we are committed to sustaining these gains through technology-driven surveillance, strong legal frameworks such as the SPOMO

Act, and regional collaboration," he declared.

FG WOOS INVESTORS WITH 200,000 BPD, \$5.5BN OIL DIVESTMENT GAINS

The Federal Government has said recent divestments by International Oil Companies have added about 200,000 barrels per day to Nigeria's crude production, boosting efforts to stabilise the sector.

Minister of State for Petroleum Resources (Oil), Senator Heineken Lokpobiri, disclosed this in Cape Town, South Africa, while delivering a keynote address on behalf of President Bola Tinubu at the Africa Energy Week.

"These are not just transfers of assets, they are transfers of confidence, capability, and ownership," the Minister said, noting that the divestments had already unlocked over \$5.5bn in fresh investments within months.

Lokpobiri in a statement issued by his special assistant on Media and Communication, Nneamaka Okafor, on Thursday, stressed that the Tinubu administration was committed to building a transparent, stable and investor-friendly petroleum sector to attract long-term capital.

Over the past three years, major IOCs such as Shell, ExxonMobil and Chevron have been offloading their onshore and shallow-water assets as part of a global strategy to focus on deepwater operations.

Their exits have paved the way for



NIGERIAN NEWS

indigenous firms like Seplat Energy, Oando, and Heirs Holdings to acquire significant stakes, boosting local participation and expanding Nigeria's production base.

The statement read, "Of particular note were the recent asset divestments by International Oil Companies, which the Minister said have unlocked over \$5.5 billion in Final Investment Decisions within months.

"These are not just transfers of assets, they are transfers of confidence, capability, and ownership. The divestments have already added approximately 200,000 barrels per day to national production."

The Minister declared that Nigeria is "open for business" and actively pursuing policies that prioritise investment, efficiency, and long-term growth in the oil sector.

"This gathering is more than a conference, it is a call to action," he said, stressing that Nigeria is ready not just to participate in the global energy market, but to lead reform and growth on the African continent.

Lokpobiri further outlined the bold policy measures implemented under President Tinubu's administration, particularly the Petroleum Industry Act, which provides a clear and predictable fiscal and regulatory environment for investors.

The PIA has laid the foundation for licensing transparency, host community engagement,

strengthened regulatory oversight, and a fair contractual framework.

"What makes Nigeria now different is the legal, regulatory, financial, and structural transformation we are delivering," the Minister said.

HARNESS TRADE DEALS FOR NON-OIL EXPANSION, NEPC CHARGES EXPORTERS

The Nigerian Export Promotion Council has charged exporters to leverage trade agreements to gain access to the international markets, noting that many Nigerian exporters are not aware of these trade deals.

Speaking at a workshop on utilising trade agreements for improved performance of the non-oil export sector in Nigeria on Wednesday, the Acting Regional Coordinator, NEPC South West office, Mrs Bolanle Emmanuel, said trade agreements would also make exporters compete with their contemporaries, especially at a time when the cost of production is high in the country.

The move comes at a time when the major challenge facing Nigerian exporters is the high cost of production and the lack of competitiveness in international markets. This is worsened when exporters are unaware of or unable to leverage international and regional trade agreements that could give them duty-free or low-tariff access to foreign markets.

Speaking on how well Nigeria's non-oil sector has fared so far, she said the volume and value of Nigeria's non-oil exports are increasing.

"So, we can only get it done better if we explore more of the African Continental Free Trade Area and the ECOWAS free liberalisation scheme.

"It's really interesting, and it's getting better. When you compare this year, last year's exports, and previous years. This year's exports are better. Even the first two quarters surpass what was exported last year," she stated.

The PUNCH reports that NEPC announced that Nigeria's non-oil exports climbed to \$3.225bn in the first half of 2025, marking a 19.59 per cent increase over the \$2.696bn recorded in the same period last year.

"The cost of production in Nigeria is quite expensive, but when you now have to pay duties, taxes, and quotas, it makes it more expensive at the other end, meaning that the products will no longer become competitive in the international markets.

"But when we equip our exporters with this knowledge, they will know what trade agreement exists in the country they are planning to export to. The AGOA expired in September. We have not had any information on whether it's going to be extended or not, like it has been in times past. So, for exporters who have been utilising that, they should know about

other markets they can explore.

“My final message is that exporting under a free trade agreement is more profitable than having to export to countries where you have stringent rules, where you have to pay duties, and where you have to pay levies, which will add more to your cost of production,” she stressed.

WORLD BANK TIES AFRICA'S JOB GROWTH TO AFFORDABLE ELECTRICITY

The World Bank has said that access to affordable and reliable electricity could unlock Africa's job creation potential, transform economies, and lift millions out of poverty.

In a new blog post titled 'Switching on Opportunity: How Electricity Can Transform Jobs in Africa', the bank noted that while energy advances have revolutionized work globally over the past 150 years, Africa's progress remains slow, with about 600 million people still lacking access to power.

“Affordable and reliable electricity is key for firms seeking to scale operations more efficiently in the region,” the bank stated.

“High electricity costs undermine the competitiveness of private sector firms, often forcing them to rely on manual processes instead of adopting high-productivity technologies that require more energy.” It added.

The World Bank warned that an

unreliable power supply continues to be a major barrier to growth, with blackouts causing business disruptions that reduce employment rates by an estimated 5 to 14 percentage points.

According to the institution, energy access has become one of the most critical levers for economic transformation and job creation across the continent. It said sectors such as agribusiness, light manufacturing, mining, construction, health care, and tourism could see significant productivity gains through more intensive and reliable power use.

To accelerate progress, the lender said it is leveraging \$30 bn in resources from its International Development Association over the next five years to support Mission 300, an initiative aimed at providing electricity to 300 million Africans by 2030. The funding represents about 20 per cent of its total support to the region.

“This level of commitment is matched by governments themselves, who are driving reforms, setting bold targets, and creating the conditions needed to transform their energy sectors through National Energy Compacts,” the financier added.

These national energy plans aim to expand infrastructure at competitive costs, integrate regional power markets, attract private investment, and strengthen utilities.

The World Bank cited examples across the continent where

electricity expansion is already creating jobs and boosting productivity. In Ethiopia, one project has connected more than eight million people and over 19,000 schools, clinics, and government facilities. Tanzania's Rural Electrification Expansion Program has linked over 16,000 rural businesses to the grid, supporting food processing, fish farming, and construction.

Similarly, Senegal's Energy Access and Scale-Up Project aims to electrify 600 health clinics, 200 schools, 700 small and medium-sized enterprises, and 200,000 households, creating jobs through installation, maintenance, and supply chains.

In Sierra Leone, the lender said, demand-driven mini-grids are proving that rural electrification can be commercially viable when tied directly to productive activities such as milling, cold storage, and digital services.

“These engagements reflect broader efforts across the region to transform the energy landscape with practical solutions that do more than just turn on the lights; they also create jobs at scale,” the World Bank stated.

The bank maintained that powering Africa's industries, health centres, and small businesses is essential to building a stronger, more resilient, and better-skilled workforce capable of driving long-term growth.



South Africa, Nigeria deepen trade ties through 2025 Outward Selling Trade Mission

The Government of South Africa has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening economic diplomacy with Nigeria to unlock new trade and investment opportunities that drive growth and development across Africa.

This commitment was declared in Lagos by the Acting High Commissioner and Consul General of South Africa in Nigeria, Bobby Moroe, during the opening session of the 2025 Outward Selling Trade Mission to Nigeria, organised by the South African Consulate General Lagos in collaboration with the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC).

In his remarks, Moroe said South Africa and Nigeria, as two of Africa's largest economies, must work together to enhance trade relations, accelerate industrialisation, and strengthen Africa's presence on the global economic map. "South Africa and Nigeria have a unique opportunity to strengthen trade and investment ties, driving economic growth and development. Together, let us tap into the transformative power of trade to stimulate growth, generate employment, and enhance lives," he said.

Highlighting opportunities under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), Moroe added:

"Nigeria and South Africa should lead the charge of industrialisation on the continent. By leveraging AfCFTA, we can unlock new avenues for trade and investment, driving growth and job creation."

Also speaking at the event, Ije Jidenma, the Chairman of the Nigeria-South Africa Chamber of Commerce (NSACC), emphasised the historical and economic bonds between the two countries, urging African nations to view the continent as a shared home. "It behooves on all of us who understand and appreciate the place of these ties in history and our overarching objectives as a continent to continue to knot the ties rather than allow them to be

untied, no matter the pressures,” he said.

A major highlight of the trade mission was the Business-to-Business (B2B) matchmaking session. Margaret Chichi Nkire, Founder of McKire Africa, explained that six South African companies from sectors including manufacturing, engineering, mining, agriculture, and agro-processing were successfully matched with Nigerian businesses in corresponding industries.

She noted that the B2B meetings provided more than networking opportunities, offering practical avenues for collaboration that could evolve into distributorships, joint ventures, and long-term partnerships. She added that the meetings aligned with AfCFTA's objective of expanding intra-African trade, reducing reliance on external markets.

“The active involvement of institutions such as the Nigeria–South Africa Chamber of Commerce (NSACC), members of Stanbic IBTC, the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC), and the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) was critical to building trust and establishing the right structures for sustainable business relationships between both countries,” Nkire said.

“By bringing Nigerian and South African businesses face-to-face, we are laying the groundwork for the kind of integration AfCFTA envisions—an Africa that trades more with itself, reduces dependency on external markets, and grows stronger from within,” she added.

Technology and innovation also

featured prominently in the mission. Mr. Sonny Iroche, Chief Executive Officer of GEN AI Learning Concepts Limited, highlighted the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in supporting trade. Speaking on the theme “How South Africa and Nigeria Can Leverage on the Opportunities Presented by AI to Advance Trade,” he said Africa must embrace AI or risk lagging behind globally.

“AI can verify the authenticity of prospective business partners and assess the financial strength of companies. It is both good and bad, depending on who is using it and for what purpose,” Iroche said, stressing that proper application can be transformative.

In his presentation, David Hachilam Nkire, Partner at Fola Sowemimo & Co (Sterling Partners), addressed the ease of doing business in Nigeria.

He reassured South African investors that Nigeria has undertaken regulatory reforms, including streamlined company registration, tax incentives for priority sectors, enhanced dispute resolution mechanisms, and stronger legal frameworks protecting cross-border partnerships.

While acknowledging the challenges every emerging market presents, he emphasised that Nigeria offers one of the most profitable landscapes in Africa. With the right guidance and credible local partners, South African businesses can thrive.

The 2025 Outward Selling Trade Mission to Nigeria showcased the commitment of both nations to deepen economic and cultural ties, strengthen private sector linkages,

and use trade as a catalyst for industrial growth.

With government commitment, private sector collaboration, and regulatory support, the mission underscored a shared vision: to make Africa a more integrated, competitive, and prosperous economic powerhouse.

Closing the event, Moreo expressed optimism about the future of South Africa–Nigeria cooperation. “This mission is not just about today's conversations but about tomorrow's opportunities. The partnerships we are building here will serve as a model for Africa, showing that when we work together, we can rise together,” he said.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY MINISTER PARKS TAU, AT THE PROUDLY SA ECOMMERCE PLATFORM LAUNCH

It is a great honour to speak with you today as we launch two critical e-commerce platforms which will enhance South Africa's economic prosperity. At the core of our industrialisation agenda lies a straightforward truth: we must build local, buy local, and support local. Localisation is not just a policy choice, it is a national imperative for job creation, industrial development, and economic sovereignty.

Ladies and Gentlemen, **Localisation as a Strategic Pillar of Industrialisation** South Africa's industrial structure continues to face pressures from import dependency and global volatility. In 2023, South Africa recorded a trade deficit in manufactured goods exceeding R150 billion, a clear indication of

our over-reliance on imported finished products. At the same time, our unemployment rate remains stubbornly high — sitting at **32.9%** in **Q1 2024**, with youth unemployment at a staggering **45.5%**. These numbers make it clear that we cannot afford to outsource production, jobs, and value creation.

That is why the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (**the dtic**) has acknowledged localisation as a key part of any industrial strategy. We are pursuing targeted interventions across sectors including agro-processing, automotive, clothing and textiles, pharmaceuticals, and renewable energy components.

As part of this drive, **the dtic** continues to support Proudly South African and the national Buy Local campaign. Since its inception, Proudly SA has registered over 2,000-member companies, representing businesses that meet strict local content and quality standards.

Through campaigns like “**Buy Local to Create Jobs**”, the movement is working to shift consumer choices and institutional procurement behaviours. Research by Proudly SA indicates that if every household redirected just 10% of their annual spend to local goods, it could create up to 120,000 new jobs.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Harnessing Digital Innovation for Market Access

While advocating for local purchasing, we must ensure that South African-made products are visible, accessible, and easy to procure, both locally and

internationally.

After our successful virtual pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai, we realised that South Africa lacked a centralised digital marketplace to showcase and connect buyers with locally made goods.

the dtic responded by commissioning the development of a national online store, led by Proudly SA, designed to serve as a trusted one-stop-shop for consumers and businesses to access South African products.

The first phase focused on B2C (business-to-consumer) functionality, and the platform now includes bulk and wholesale purchasing capabilities. To date, over 500 verified South African suppliers have been onboarded, with thousands of products available across categories.

The next major development is the introduction of export functionality. This will allow South African manufacturers, especially MSMEs, to access opportunities presented by the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), a market with a projected GDP of \$3.4 trillion and access to 1.4 billion consumers.

South Africa's eCommerce market itself is also growing, expected to reach R225 billion by 2025, with increased internet penetration and digital payment infrastructure expanding rapidly. It is critical that local producers benefit from this growth, and do not get left behind.

By supporting local businesses to enter digital marketplaces, we're not just growing the economy, we're digitally enabling industrialisation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Inclusive Procurement for Broad-Based Economic Empowerment

Beyond transactional platforms, we must also create tools that facilitate inclusive and transformative procurement.

The launch of the Market Access Platform (MAP) represents a breakthrough in this regard. This is a non-transactional B2B platform, designed to help procurement officials in both public and private sectors identify verified local suppliers, including designated groups.

In South Africa, only about 20% of public procurement spending reaches MSMEs, and even less goes to youth, women, or disability-owned businesses. This must change.

MAP directly supports this transformation. It will allow procurement teams to filter suppliers by sector, ownership profile, compliance status, and local content thresholds, making it easier to meet targets for localisation and transformation.

Through MAP, large buyers can connect with:

- Black-owned businesses
- Women-owned enterprises
- Youth-led startups
- Businesses owned by persons with disabilities and military veterans

This is not just about compliance. It is about building an inclusive industrial base that reflects the full potential of South Africa's human capital.

If every large institution — public or private — made a 10% shift toward these groups, it would unleash billions of rands in procurement value into the hands of those who have historically been

excluded.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
C o n c l u s i o n

We are at a critical juncture. Our localisation strategy is more than a set of targets, but rather, it is a commitment to rebuild the productive economy, reduce inequality, and empower South African producers.

Through platforms like the national online store and MAP, we are removing friction, creating access, and bridging the gap between policy intent and market reality.

But we cannot do it alone.

We need every South African consumer, buyer, CEO, and policymaker to act. Buy local. Source local. Empower local.

SOUTH AFRICAN ABALONE INDUSTRY CASTS ITS NETS WIDER – SETS SIGHT ON EUROPEAN MARKET.

The South Africa Abalone Export Council has set its sight on the European market as part of its market diversification strategy. The Chief Executive Officer of the council, Ms Rhomona Gounden is currently representing the sector at the prestigious Anuga Food and Beverage Trade Fair in Cologne, Germany, together with 30 other South African companies. The world's largest global food and beverage trade show started on Saturday ended on Wednesday, 8 October 2025.

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (**the dtic**) has set up a national pavilion where South African agro-processing companies are showcasing their proudly South African products. This is part of the department's

efforts to assist companies seek markets in various parts of the world as part of the country's export diversification initiatives.

Gounden describes her presence at Anuga as both a strategic mission and a brand awareness drive for South African abalone, a premium seafood delicacy prized across Asia but still relatively unknown in Europe. Her booth has attracted some strange attention from the trade show visitors.

She adds that the next step lies in educating the European market, and building consumer awareness and appreciation for South African abalone. She admits that the council has its work cut out for it in an attempt to market the product in Europe.

“Not many people know about abalone here in Europe. That is exactly the reason why we had to participate in this popular and big trade fair with the assistance of **the dtic**. We have a lot of work to do. We are making all efforts to explore Europe as a potential market in order to diversify our export markets into the European Union. We are on a mission to seek export opportunities in Europe and are confident that we will gradually penetrate this market with France being our potential gateway as they are fond of exotic foods,” adds Gounden.

“We are not just selling a premium product but rather building a premium brand for South African abalone in Europe. This journey is about creating awareness, fostering curiosity and ultimately developing an alternate market for farmed abalone,” explains Gounden.

The South African Abalone Export Council was established in 2006. It represents six member companies, namely Aquunion, HIK, I&J, Sea Harvest, West Coast Abalone, and Wild Coast Abalone), representing twelve farms, primarily in the Western Cape and one in the Eastern Cape.

The industry produces around 3 000 tonnes of abalone annually. 99% of all farmed abalone is exported to traditional markets such as China, Japan, Canada and Singapore. It is a labour-intensive industry that employs 2 500 people.

SA Youth Trade Association Capacity Building Workshop by Deputy Minister Whitfield

[Home/Speeches](#)/Speech for the SA Youth Trade Association Capacity Building Workshop by Deputy Minister Whitfield

[Skip to content](#)

Posted: August 28, 2024

[Speeches](#)

[Text to Speech](#)

Theme: “Empowering and creating a conducive environment for an inclusive and sustainable trade through a meaningful youth participation”

The Government of National Unity is fully committed to rapid, inclusive economic growth and job creation. As the Department of Trade, Industry & Competition our key focus is on stimulating manufacturing growth in order to build an export-oriented economy.

The role of sustainable trade in this regard is critical as it involves **p r o m o t i n g e c o n o m i c** development, social welfare, and environmental stewardship

through international trade. Its goal is to minimise the adverse negative effects of trade, such as pollution, resource depletion, and inequality, while enhancing positive effects, such as income, employment, and education. Sustainable trade is not only about the products, but also the processes and policies that govern them according to the World Economic Forum.

The department endeavours to contribute to sustainable trade through export promotion initiatives that foster inclusive economic growth; support youth entrepreneurship; contribute to retaining and creating jobs whilst addressing the environmental and social challenges.

The department's approach to sustainable trade thus focuses on providing youth entrepreneurs with the tools and platforms necessary to enter international markets. Through supporting youth participation in these platforms that connect them with international buyers, the Branch aims to promote balanced trade. This ensures that youth-led businesses can compete fairly and sustainably on a global scale, contributing to equitable trade.

A key strategic initiative in support of youth is through market access and trade facilitation of youth-led businesses. The department supports participation in international trade missions and fairs that focus on sustainable products, giving export-ready youth entrepreneurs a platform to showcase their innovative products to a global audience. An example of such an event is Biofach, a trade show in Germany that offers a platform to showcase

organic products, discuss industry trends, and promote sustainable agriculture.

In the area of exporter development the department has also introduced specialized training programmes that are specifically designed to meet the needs of young entrepreneurs to scale up their export readiness. These programmes cover critical areas such as market research, market entry strategies, export regulations, and the use of digital tools to enhance trade. We are committed to equipping our youth with the skills and knowledge they need to compete and succeed globally.

The training is complemented by mentorship and coaching from those who have walked this path before to help entrepreneurs navigate cultural and regulatory challenges and maximise opportunities in international markets.

Through the Export Help Desk the branch also facilitates access to information and resources to equip SMMEs with the market intelligence, trade data, and resources they need to make informed decisions about entering and thriving in global markets.

South Africa has several trade agreements and trade arrangements in place that offer significant opportunities for South African businesses. Initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), and our partnerships within BRICS are gateways to new markets. On this note, it is important to reflect on the fact that the median age on the African

continent is 19 years. The future of Africa's export-led growth and inter-continental trade, is intrinsically linked to Africa's youth.

In that regard the department, through outreach programmes, supports our youth-owned and SMME businesses to take full advantage of these opportunities. These agreements provide a pathway for our young entrepreneurs to access new markets, increase their competitiveness, and scale their operations on an international level.

In today's world, digital tools and e-commerce are essential for opening up global markets. As such the department is also scaling up support initiatives that encourage digital literacy and the adoption of technology in business operations. This will enable our youth to compete effectively in the global digital economy and take full advantage of the opportunities it offers.

Furthermore, digital platforms are also leveraged to connect seasoned and youth entrepreneurs with international buyers who are interested in eco-friendly and environmentally responsible goods/services.

As a parting comment, many may not be interested in trade policy, but trade policy is increasingly taking an interest in you.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak to you at this capacity building workshop. The DTIC remains committed to supporting young entrepreneurs towards our objective of building an export-oriented economy.

STANBIC IBTC CHARTS ECONOMIC OUTLOOK, EQUIPS CLIENTS WITH INSIGHTS

In a bid to strengthen corporate decision-making and support business resilience amid Nigeria's evolving economic landscape, Stanbic IBTC Bank has hosted a high-level strategic client forum themed, 'Beyond the Numbers: Unpacking Nigeria's Economic Trajectory—2025 and Beyond.'

The engagement, held in Lagos, brought together chief executives, industry leaders, and institutional investors to dissect Nigeria's macroeconomic outlook and explore strategies for navigating 2026 and the years ahead.

The bank in a statement noted that the global market forum featured expert presentations that highlighted the significance of macroeconomic analysis and market intelligence in navigating Nigeria's economic landscape.

Executive Director, Corporate and Transaction Banking, Stanbic IBTC Bank, Eric Fajemisin, expressed the bank's commitment to enabling clients and partners to make informed choices. "Our goal with this forum is to empower our clients and partners to navigate these times when economic conditions are continually evolving," he remarked.

Head, Global Market Nigeria, Stanbic IBTC Bank, Dare Otitoju, reiterated the bank's focus on evolving beyond traditional financing solutions. "Our role extends beyond traditional financing. We strive to be true partners that enable success for all

our clients by equipping them with relevant tools that foster growth," he stated.

COCA-COLA RELAUNCHES "SHARE A COKE" CAMPAIGN

Coca-Cola Nigeria is relaunching its "Share a Coke" campaign on an unprecedented scale of shareability and personalisation for a new generation, which is pushing the boundaries of innovative brand experiences.

Initially launched in 2011, this campaign in which you could find your name in place of the logo was a n i n d u s t r y - f i r s t i n personalisation.

Now the brand wants you to share a Coke with your friends to celebrate your friendship and create memories that will last a lifetime.

The campaign will run from October to December 2025.

Commenting on the "Share A Coke" campaign, the Senior Director and Head of Marketing, Coca-Cola Nigeria, Mr. Yusuf Murtala, said: "In Nigeria, we thrive on moments of togetherness and community where greatness happens. "Share A Coke" celebrates the everyday connections that turn into memories we hold on to. It is a reminder that even the smallest gesture, like seeing your name on a Coke bottle, can spark joy, and bring people closer."

Murtala added that meaningful connections thrive both online and offline.

He said: "While digital spaces keep us close, it's those shared moments in real life that make for long lasting memories, yet the physical 'third spaces' that nourish these meaningful connections are in decline.

"Therefore, 'Share a Coke' is celebrating the connections and experiences that define this generation in spaces that allow moments of togetherness to thrive."

Also, the Director, Marketing, Coca-Cola Nigeria, Valerie Odubogun, said that "in today's digital world, it is important to celebrate the unique bonds of friendships and celebrate this important human connection.

"Share a Coke' reminds us that memories happen when we come together and experience the real magic of human connection; those spontaneous moments of laughter, stories, and genuine connection, shared over a Coca-Cola can, make life so special."

According to Odubogun, interested participants could join the fun looking "for Coca-Cola cans or bottles in-store and get ready to share the moment with your crew.

"Consumers can experience the campaign in real time through exciting consumer promotions, and of course, the shared connection of Nigerian names on Coca-Cola's cans and bottles.

"This year, Nigerians stand a chance to win their share of millions in cash and prizes every week from October 1 to December

31, 2025, exclusively through personalized 50cl Coca-Cola bottles available at any major retailer nationwide.

Coca-Cola said that 72 per cent of Gen Z crave authenticity and want to connect with real people in everything they do.

It said: "In a world where interactions online can feel momentary, sharing a Coke offers a tangible way to show you care.

"The brand's unique customization platform offers even more names to choose from and the ability to add your own personal touch, you can create a truly unique Coca-Cola can or bottle to express your appreciation for friends, family, and loved ones. It's a simple gesture that can strengthen and deepen connections."

Through each personalized beverage, Coca-Cola will be refreshing Nigerians as they make long-lasting memories.

"On October 23, Nigerians can take part in a host of the memorable Coke experiences at the Share A Coke launch in Lagos, Nigeria," it said.

DANGOTE TARGETS GLOBAL LEADERSHIP IN FERTILISER EXPORTS

President of Dangote Group, Aliko Dangote, has declared that Nigeria is on track to become a global powerhouse in fertiliser and petrochemicals, with his company targeting the position of world's largest exporter of urea fertiliser by 2026.

Dangote made the disclosure on

while briefing journalists at the Dangote Refinery complex in Lagos, during an event marking the one-year anniversary of the refinery's gasoline rollout.

Speaking with optimism, the billionaire industrialist said the group was scaling operations to position Nigeria at the centre of the global urea market. "We're actually targeting to be the largest exporter of urea fertiliser in the world. And that's a big celebration for Nigeria," Dangote said.

According to him, fertiliser exports will not only boost Nigeria's foreign exchange earnings but also strengthen food security across Africa, where fertiliser demand continues to outstrip local production.

Beyond fertiliser, Dangote highlighted the group's progress in petrochemicals, particularly polypropylene, a key raw material for packaging, textiles, and automotive components. "Nigeria will be the largest exporter of Polypropylene in Africa. It will be the largest supplier of Polypropylene. And we are not deterred by all this noise coming through," he declared.

Industry experts say the move could reposition Nigeria as a hub for petrochemical exports, reducing Africa's reliance on imports from Asia and Europe. The refinery anniversary event also featured the rollout of 1,000 Compressed Natural Gas trucks to transport petroleum products nationwide.

Dangote revealed that the fleet is part of a larger plan to deploy

4,000 CNG trucks by year-end, aimed at easing logistics bottlenecks, reducing transport costs, and expanding fuel access across the country. He disclosed that the project cost over N2tn, with each CNG truck priced between N170m and N190m.

Dangote emphasised that the trucking initiative is designed not only to improve fuel distribution but also to generate employment on a large scale.

"We are saying that there will be lots of jobs. Are our own trucks to be driven by robots? They are not robotic trucks. By the time you involve a workshop manager, mechanical, electric truck, people who look after cars, people who look at the logistic movement of the truck, dispatch, every truck will have about six people," he said.

According to him, the planned 4,000 trucks will directly and indirectly create at least 24,000 jobs. He added that the salaries for truck drivers under the initiative would be three to four times higher than the national minimum wage, reflecting the company's commitment to improving living standards.

In another forward-looking move, Dangote announced that the group would deploy electric vehicles (EVs) for product transportation starting January 2026. "Our next phase is that, from February next year, we are looking at doing electric vehicles," he said, underscoring the group's commitment to sustainability and alignment with global energy

transition trends.

FNITCC: FIDELITY BANK TO SPOTLIGHT FINTECH'S ROLE IN U.S.-AFRICATRADE

Tier-one lender Fidelity Bank Plc will host a high-profile panel session titled, “Digital Railroads: Powering U.S.–Africa Commerce Through Fintech” at the upcoming Fidelity Nigeria International Trade and Creative Connect (FNITCC) in Atlanta, USA.

The bank in a statement said the session, scheduled for Friday, 19 September 2025, will explore how fintech is reshaping cross-border trade by enabling seamless payments, improving access to finance, and driving financial inclusion across Africa and the diaspora.

The panel will bring together some of the brightest minds in digital finance including: Aisha N. Ahmad, CFA, Former Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria; Seyi Ebenezer, Founder of Payaza Africa, and a seasoned fintech entrepreneur with over 15 years of experience scaling payment gateways across 20 African countries, Canada, the USA, and UAE; and Charles Oligbo, Founder & CEO of Sawport, an AI-powered platform designed for real-time customer engagement in the diaspora and on the continent.

Speaking ahead of the session, Isaiah Ndukwe, Divisional Head, Agric. and Exports, Fidelity Bank Plc, highlighted fintech's unique role in unlocking Africa's trade potential:

“The African Continental Free

Trade Area (AfCFTA) is projected to boost intra-African trade by more than 50 per cent by 2030. But challenges like fragmented payment systems, currency conversion, and limited trade finance continue to hold businesses back.

“Fintechs are uniquely positioned to address these gaps—enabling real-time, low-cost cross-border payments, offering alternative financing for SMEs, creating digital identities for exporters, and facilitating diaspora remittances and investments. This is why we're putting fintech at the heart of discussions at FNITCC Atlanta.”

Hosted in partnership with AFRICON—the premier global gathering of African innovators and changemakers—FNITCC Atlanta will run from 18 to 20 September 2025 in USA. The event is expected to attract over 3,000 participants, including investors, trade agencies, exporters, and diaspora professionals, with projected trade and investment deals of more than \$400 million.

According to the African Development Bank, Africa's fintech revenues are projected to hit \$30 billion by 2025—a clear sign that digital finance is not just powering transactions but also rewriting the future of trade.

AIICO HOLDS ANNUITY FORUM IN LAGOS

Composite insurer AIICO Insurance Plc has hosted another edition of its Annuity Forum, a yearly engagement platform designed to strengthen ties with

its annuity customers, listen to their feedback, and create opportunities for meaningful interaction.

For the first time since its inception, the event, traditionally held only in Lagos, is spreading its reach to other regions of the country. The Lagos edition sets the pace, with another scheduled to be held in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, targeting annuity customers in the South-South region.

The Lagos event included health checks, entertainment, quizzes, and refreshments, alongside constructive conversations on enhancing customer experience.

Speaking at the event, annuitants expressed their gratitude to AIICO for creating a platform that fosters connection and trust. One of the participants, the Onitetiku & Oluowode of Ota, Oba Ogungbayi Wasiu, who is also a retired officer from the Ministry of Education, shared his experience.

He said, “I retired 15 years ago and started my annuity immediately after retirement. I have no regrets because AIICO has paid me every month without fail. I strongly recommend AIICO to anyone preparing for retirement because the company has been very consistent.

Mrs Judith Chibuogwu, who retired as a Director of Nursing from Lagos University Teaching Hospital, began her annuity with AIICO in March this year. Sharing her experience, she said, “It's been wonderful. I took the advice to take on an annuity with AIICO, and it has been an amazing

experience with the steady, constant payments. Today's event has also been very enlightening, especially the conversations around retirement life, health, and wellbeing. In fact, I've already started talking to my former colleagues who are still in service about AIICO's annuity."

The Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of AIICO Insurance Plc, Mr Babatunde Fajemirokun, while welcoming the annuitants, stated, "This annual gathering is not just a meeting; it is a celebration of your achievements, resilience and the trust you have placed in us as your partner on life's journey. You are not just clients; you are family. This forum is an opportunity to strengthen our bond, share updates on our industry and reaffirm the promises we have made to you."

He addressed head-on the negative claims circulating online about the alleged mismanagement of annuity funds, stating, "AIICO Insurance ensures that your funds are kept with pension fund custodians; that means there's no individual within the AIICO team that has access to your funds. This is the case with all insurance companies in the annuity business. The funds are professionally managed in line with strict regulatory guidelines that have been provided."

Executive Director of the Retail Business Division, Mr Gbenga Ilori, echoed this sentiment:

"Our business exists because of our customers, and we believe it is

important to create avenues for physical interaction and engagement. These forums give us the opportunity to listen, respond to their questions, and hear their ideas on how we can serve them better. They have entrusted their pensions to us, and we consider it a sacred duty to always stay connected to them.

"More and more people are placing their trust in AIICO for their annuity needs. Today, we serve over 25,000 annuitants across the country, and the number keeps growing. This is why we are taking the forum beyond Lagos, with the South-South region as our next stop in a few weeks."

MTN DEEPENS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION INVESTMENT, BACKS ACCOUNTANTS' CAPACITY BUILDING

MTN Nigeria has reaffirmed its commitment to driving Nigeria's digital transformation through strategic investments in professional capacity building and partnerships that empower the nation's workforce for the future.

Speaking on the sidelines of the 55th Annual Accountants Conference of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN), the Chief Financial Officer of MTN Nigeria, Mr. Modupe Kadri, said the company's sponsorship of the event reflects its belief in equipping professionals with the technological tools required to thrive in a data-driven economy.

Kadri noted that MTN's support for the accounting profession forms part of its broader agenda to strengthen Nigeria's human capital base amid a global shift toward artificial intelligence (AI), cloud computing, cybersecurity, and fintech innovations.

"At MTN, we see digital transformation not just as a business strategy, but as a national imperative," Kadri said. "Our partnership with ICAN is about preparing Nigeria's finance professionals for the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Accountants are key to economic stability, and their ability to adapt to new technologies will determine the strength of Nigeria's financial ecosystem."

He emphasised that retooling and continuous learning have become critical for all professionals, including those in accounting. "Everybody needs to upskill themselves," he said. "What we were taught in school is no longer enough. Cloud skills, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity — those are the tools that will define tomorrow's economy."

Also, the President of ICAN, Mallam Haruna Nma Yahaya, commended MTN for its sustained partnership and investment in professional development. He described the conference theme — "Building Resilience: Aligning Reforms for Nigeria's Development" — as a timely reflection of the country's urgent need for reform and innovation.

NIGERIA SOUTH AFRICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BREAKFAST MEETING SPONSORED BY MTN NIGERIA



Dr. Ije Jidenma, Chairman, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Ikechukwu Ohiaya, Dean, School of Media and Communication, Pan-Atlantic University; Osayaba Giwa-Osagie, Ex-Officio Director, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce; Chineza Gbenga-Oluwatoye, General Manager, Corporate Affairs, MTN Nigeria; and Prof. Bobby Moroe, Consul General of South Africa to Nigeria; Nifemi Oguntayo, Deputy Head of Presentation & Lead Anchor, TVC; Akinkunmi Obekeye, Business Reporter, CNBC Africa



Display of NSACC 25th Anniversary Logo



Cross section of participants



WESGRO TEAM



Cross section of participants



Chineza Gbenga-Oluwatoye, General Manager, Corporate Affairs, MTN Nigeria receiving appreciation plaque from : Foluso Phillips, Ex-Officio Director, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce on behalf of Tobechukwu Okigbo, Director, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce

NIGERIA SOUTH AFRICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BREAKFAST MEETING SPONSORED BY MTN NIGERIA



Dr Ikechukwu Obiaya, Dean, School of Media and Communication, Pan-Atlantic University receiving plaque from Dr. Ije Jidenma, Chairman, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce



Cross section of Participants



Cross section of participants



Oluwaseyi Adeyemo, Publisher, Inside Watch Africa; lyke Ejimofor, Executive Secretary, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce; Amarachi Ubani, Diplomatic Editor, Channels TV; Foluso Phillips, Ex-Officio Director, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Ije Jidenma, Chairman, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce; Elizabeth Musa, Programme Lead & Anchor BusinessDay TV; Dr Ikechukwu Obiaya, Dean, School of Media and Communication, Pan-Atlantic University; Osayaba Giwa-Osagie, Ex-Officio Director, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce and Chineza Ghenga-Oluwatoye, General Manager, Corporate Affairs, MTN Nigeria



Foluso Phillips, Ex-Officio Director, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce, Osayaba Giwa-Osagie, Ex-Officio Director, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Ije Jidenma, Chairman, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce and Prof. Bobby Moroe, Consul General of South Africa to Nigeria



Oluwaseyi Adeyemo, Publisher, Inside Watch Africa; Oluwadunsi Sanya, Head of Editorial & Innovation, BellaNaija; Elizabeth Musa, Programme Lead & Anchor BusinessDay TV; Amarachi Ubani, Diplomatic Editor, Channels TV and : Foluso Phillips, Ex-Officio Director, Nigeria South Africa Chamber of Commerce

“Best Mobile Network in Nigeria”

***Fastest 5G Network in West Africa
Best Mobile Video Experience in Nigeria***

— OOKLA®



Trusted by over
85 Million Subscribers





We Mitigate **RISK**

SECURITY | MARITIME | LOGISTICS

www.ppslmg.com
Call: +234 807 5892 694, +234 810 672 4521
info@protectionplusservices.net



www.Flysaa.com

Make São PAULO

Your Next Shopping Destination

Fly from LAGOS today!



SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

For Booking & Reservations

63 Adekunle Fajuyi way

Ikeja GRA , Lagos

01 2700712-4

Reservationslagos@flysaa.com



THE NIGERIA-SOUTH AFRICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Opportunity to Network in our vibrant Business Fora
- Over 240 Strong Chamber Members - (inc Blue-Chip Nigeria and South African Companies)
- Relationship with the Consulate on matters relating to Investment, Trade Mission and Visa.
- Promoting bilateral trade and interest between Nigeria and South Africa
- Access to information from South Africa-Nigeria Chamber of Commerce
- Assistance with Company set-up in Nigeria and in South Africa
- Access to South African Trade Delegations to foster business related opportunities.
- Access to Business Conferences in South Africa.
- Access to Trade Missions to South Africa.
- Advocacy: Members are represented and their voice heard through the Chamber Committees that address business related issues at various inter-governmental levels.

Please contact the Chamber Secretariat for further enquiries

Mr. Iyke Ejimofor
Executive Secretary

01-4538571; 01-4538572; 08033205614

Email: iykeejimofor@nsacc.org.ng

Are you ready to elevate your creative vision?

At AFKAR, we go beyond printing and publishing
— we cultivate vibrant creative markets that empower you to thrive!

OUR OFFERINGS:

Creative Development Programs, Workshops, and Training:

Join our innovative training designed to nurture your skills in writing, creative design, printing technology, and marketing.

Resources & Support: Access essential tools and materials that will help you bring your projects to life.

Networking Opportunities:

Connect with fellow creatives, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders. Collaborate, share ideas, and grow within our supportive community.

Benefits:

Expert Guidance: Learn from experienced mentors passionate about sharing their expertise.

Inclusive Environment: We welcome all skill levels
—from newcomers to seasoned practitioners
—into our nurturing community focused on growth and creativity

Make Your Mark: Publish your work and showcase your talent to a broader audience.

Join the Movement!

Build a career as a graphic artist, prepress, press, post-press professional, or entrepreneur.

The Afkar Printing and Publishing Empowerment Initiative is here to help you succeed. Together, let's harness the power of print and creativity!



Contact Us Today!

www.afkarprintsng.com

08093077605

APPEI: Empowering Dreams, One Page at a Time!

[SERVICES](#)[ABOUT US](#)[INSIGHTS](#)[EVENTS](#)[RESOURCES](#)[GALLERY](#)[CONTACT US](#)

WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER

OVER 240 MEMBERS

ACROSS VARIOUS INDUSTRIES

BECOME A MEMBER

Dear Esteemed Members,

The Nigeria-South Africa Chamber of Commerce's new website was launched at the September breakfast webinar on Thursday 23rd September, 2021.

We encourage you to explore the new Chamber's website:

- Information about the Chamber
- Insights
- Services
- Information on investment opportunities in Nigeria and South Africa.
- Information on Tourist Attractions in Nigeria and South Africa.
- Information on Promotion of Bilateral Trade Investment between Nigeria and South Africa
- Membership's application and registration, etc.

Advertise on the NSACC website and enjoy great benefits:

- Increasing brand & products awareness.
- Standing out from the competition.
- Attracting current & potential customers.
- Educating your business customers.
- Increasing Sales Volume & ROI (Return on Investment).
- Improving your brand positioning "image"

Visit the chamber website through this link: www.nsacc.org.ng

Thank you for partnering with us.

Iyke Ejimofor
Executive Secretary

**AdverTise
HERE!**



www.nsacc.org.ng

TRAVEL CHECKLIST FOR SOUTH AFRICA

1. A valid Passport (validity of at least 30days after the intended stay).
2. **Valid Visa:** -Diplomatic Passport are exempted.
-Ordinary Passport requires visa.
3. **Vaccination Certificate** (Yellow Fever Card) duly and fully completed by a health practitioner.

A fully completed valid card should bear the following information: Full names of the applicant, Passport number, Date of birth, Gender/Sex, Signature of the applicant, Date on which vaccine was taken, Health practitioner's signature and the name of the centre where the vaccine was taken/administered, Manufacturer and Batch number of the vaccine, and official stamp of the vaccinating centre.

Children who are 10years and below require their Clinic/Health Immunization Cards, with evidence of yellow fever vaccine taken at 9/12months.

Valid Yellow Fever Card could be applied in good time at Maitland International Airport:

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY OFFICE.

ALSO NOTE: The validity of your card is 10years.

4. Minor(s)/Child(ren) accompanied by both Parents should have unabridged Birth Certificate.
5. Minor(s)/Child(ren) accompanied by one Parent should have:
 - i) Unabridged Birth Certificate(s) for Minor(s)/Child(ren).
 - ii) Letter of consent from the other Parent and passport data page.
 - iii) Marriage certificate.
6. Minor(s)/child(ren) accompanied by Guardian should have:
 - i) Unabridged Birth Certificate(s) for Minor(s)/Child(ren).
 - ii) Parental Consent Affidavit (PCA).
 - iii) Copies of the identity documents or passports of the Parents.
 - iv) Contact details of the person in whose care the Minor(s)/Child(ren) will be in South Africa.

ENSURE YOUR DOCUMENTS ARE COMPLETE PRIOR TO TRAVELLING!

NOTE: COVID -19 COMPLIANCE IS REQUIRED.



VISA

REQUIREMENTS FOR SOUTH AFRICA

VISITOR'S VISA

1. Application Form fully completed in black ink only
2. Two identical passport size (45mmx45mm) photographs on white background showing the complete face.
3. A valid passport (validity of at least 30 days after the intended stay)
4. Certified copy of passport data page as well as copies of existing visa and previously issued visas, if any.
5. Self introduction letter with physical address and phone number.
6. Introduction/Recommendation letter from an Employer, where applicable, signed with contact details, (full names of the Employer's, approved signatories, physical address and phone numbers).
7. Verifiable hotel reservation/bookings which must be done directly with the hotels and not through third parties, (e.g. booking .com; hotel .com, HRS, etc).
8. Certified copy of international vaccination card (yellow fever card) duly and fully completed by a health practitioner.
9. Proof of sufficient financial status (three months recent bank statement) or financial support letter from employer with three months bank statement) in a case where the Employer is sponsoring the trip. In the event the applicant is travelling on a private capacity, the bank statement submitted should reflect the salary deposited into the applicant's bank statement. Sponsored trips should always have a letter with full details of the sponsor and contact details; as well as a copy of identity card/passport data page. Certain Corporate Entities are exempted from this requirement.
10. Applicant travelling on an official business should, in addition to the above requirements, attach a letter of invitation/confirmation of training/conference, etc. from a South African Company with full details of the Company's Authorized representative; physical address and phone numbers (landline number compulsory). All verifiable bookings (accommodation as well as flight) are required and should be submitted together with the application.
11. Unabridged Birth Certificate for Minors/Children travelling with parents. Where applicable, a consent letter/s with copy/ies of parent/s identification card/passport data page should be attached to the application.
12. Marriage Certificate where applicable and if the intended stay will be for more than 90 days.
13. Verifiable Flight Booking.
14. Visitors to South Africa must have at least two blank pages on their passport.
15. Applications for all types of Visas should be submitted to VFS for Processing.

NOTE: COVID -19 COMPLIANCE IS REQUIRED.

YOUR ONE-STOP LOGISTICS COMPANY

At **SIFAX Group**, we are strategically positioned to cater for your logistics, hospitality and financial services need.

We are your go-to company at the seaport and airport for services like freighting (air and sea), clearing & forwarding, warehousing, haulage, passenger handling and baggage handling, among others. We also offer hospitality and financial services for discerning clients.

With a network of companies offering complementary services, SIFAX Group delivers best value at all times.



Maritime



Logistics



Oil & Gas



Aviation



Financial
Services



Hospitality



@sifaxgroup



@officialsifaxgroup

54, Warehouse Road, Apapa, Lagos, Nigeria.

+234 -1-7120041, +234 8105376814, +234 8105364016, +234 909797403

E-mail: info@sifaxgroup.com, www.sifaxgroup.com

Your end-to-end financial solutions partner



Take advantage of a wide range of financial solutions from **Stanbic IBTC**, tailored to realising your dreams.

Q | www.stanbicibtc.com