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Welcome Note.

Last month we published the situation at the ports in Nigeria and their congested state. This month like the last we bring to you the recent changes and lack thereof in the ports.

Also, On the 31st of March 2016 in the evening NARTO (National Association of Road Transport Owners) embarked on a strike action to protest the implementation by the NPA of Minimum Safety Standard and payment of a new vehicle sticker charge.

We like to hear from you, please mail us with feedbacks and inputs you would like to see in our newsletter going forward.

Email: info@amglogistic.com

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Truck drivers' Strike in Lagos.



[Image source; google images](#)

On the 31st of March 2016 in the evening as NARTO (National Association of Road Transport Owners) embarked on strike action to protest the implementation by the NPA of Minimum Safety Standard and payment of a new vehicle sticker charge.

Any truck without the sticker is turned back at the gate. As per information we have received from the transporters NARTO has warned all its members not to pay any amount for the sticker. Full implementation of the minimum safety standard commenced yesterday evening at Apapa and as at this morning, it has spread to all the Ports.

News reaching us is that, the Truck drivers' strike is over and operations are slowly returning back to normal.

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Ports Situation in Nigeria.



[Image source: google images](#)

The congestion in the ports in Nigeria still remains the same, despite the new initiative by the Minister of Transportation, Mr. Rotimi Ameachi in introducing Dry Port to the Northern part of the country in Kaduna.

A general improvement of the situation remains to be seen.

News and Press.

Cargo diversion: Shippers decry multiple levies, bureaucracy in Nigerian ports and their preference for shipping goods through foreign ports.

Some Nigerian shippers said they prefer the Cotonou Port and other ports in neighbouring countries to avoid multiple levies and bureaucracy being experienced in Nigerian ports. The shippers (importers and exporters), who spoke with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos, cited lower import

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duties and seamless clearance of cargoes as reasons for patronising the Port of Cotonou.

The Chief Executive of Advance Motor Logistics, Mr Solomon James, said that every investor was looking for ways to maximise profit, no matter how little. James said that;

“Importers considered the return on investments and preferred to ship their goods through Cotonou port.”

Source: [Shipping Position Online](#).

Nigerian Shippers' Council reduces port charges by 20%.

In a bid to stop Nigeria-bound cargoes from being diverted to ports of neighbouring countries, the Nigerian Shippers' Council, NSC, has slashed charges by as much as 20 percent.

This is the first time the Nigerian Shippers' Council is stamping its authority as the economic regulator of the ports.

Source: [Naija247news](#).

Zenith Bank Maintains Lead in Forex Allocation from CBN.

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[Image source; Bizwatch.com](http://bizwatch.com)

For the second week in a row, Zenith Bank Plc has maintained its lead with the highest allocation of foreign exchange from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), the returns on utilisation of forex published by banks last week the 22nd of March, 2016 have shown Zenith Bank with an allotment of \$23,630,485.39.

Source: ThisDay Newspaper.

AS OF THE 30TH OF MARCH 2016 the Naira still struggles against the dollar.

The Naira on Wednesday maintained its exchange rate at N322 to a dollar.

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It also remained firm against the two other major currencies, the pound sterling which exchanged at N448 and the euro which sold for N355.

The official interbank rate remains at N197. Some traders at the parallel market told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos that the high exchange rate was discouraging to customers. They complained that the market had remained dull due to low patronage.

Meanwhile, the apex bank, in its last Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting, said that excess liquidity in the banking system was contributing to the current pressure in the foreign exchange market.

The bank said that the pressure was impacting negatively on consumer prices.

(NAN)

The logo for AMG Logistics (NIG) Ltd. features the letters 'AMG' in a large, bold, blue font. Below 'AMG', the words 'LOGISTICS (NIG) LTD.' are written in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font. The logo is set against a white background with a large, stylized graphic element consisting of a red and grey swoosh that curves around the text.

Oil prices fall as concerns rise over rally petering out.



Image source; www.business-standard.com

TOKYO: Oil prices fell on the 29th of March, 2016, as concerns mount that a rally since January is fizzling out, while analysts forecast another rise to record levels for U.S. crude stockpiles.

U.S. oil was down 30 cents at \$39.09 a barrel at 0553 GMT, after finishing down 7 cents at \$39.39, the previous session.

Source: [Economic Times](#).

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‘Forex scarcity may cause massive unemployment.’

The Federal Government has been advised to urgently address the lingering foreign exchange scarcity problem in the country to forestall massive job losses. While a long-term plan of developing alternative forex sources is required, a short to medium-term plan targeted at tackling the existing dollar shortage is inevitable. The immediate past Anglican Bishop of the Diocese of Ife, Rt. Rev. Oluranti Odubogun, stated this at a news conference on the state of the nation in Lagos.

He said, “If the Federal Government does not map out economic strategy to forestall further scarcity of forex, there is a grave danger of increase in unemployment as organisations will begin to lay off workers. So, let the government provide forex on the basis of needs that are genuine and imperative for incremental value to the economy. Categorisation is also important.”

Source: [The Punch Newspaper](#).

NAFDAC destroys N1bn fake products.

The National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) yesterday destroyed fake and unwholesome products worth more than N1 billion in Ogun State.

The products destroyed included expired products which were said to have been voluntarily handed over by compliant companies in the country.

Source: Daily Trust.

Kirikiri Customs Command gives tanker drivers two weeks to quit.



[Image source: nationalmirroronline.com](http://nationalmirroronline.com)

Comptroller Benjamin Aber, the Area Controller, Kirikiri Lighter Terminal Command of the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), on Wednesday the 23rd of March gave two weeks' ultimatum to petroleum tanker drivers to quit the environment.

Aber gave the ultimatum in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on the side-line of a Stakeholders' meeting held by the command.

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He said that there was need to create a corridor along the tank farm and jetty operational area to free the exit and entrance of the environment of the terminal.

Source: [Information Nigeria](#).

Cross River to start exporting Bananas; In bid to diversify the economy



[Image source; dailypost.ng](#)

In bid to diversify the economy, Ben Ayade, Governor of the Cross River State has stated that the state would soon start exporting banana.

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According to Punch, Mexican investors have concluded all arrangements with The Foreign Direct Investment of Cross River to start the exportation of banana from the state.

Source: The Pulse.

FG increases salary of Nigeria Customs Service.



[Image source: pulse.ng](https://pulse.ng)

In a bid to motivate officers and men of the Nigeria Customs Service them to raise the level of revenue generation for the government, the federal government has announced plan to increase their remuneration.

This was made known by the Finance Minister, Kemi Adeosun in a statement by her Special Adviser on Media, Mr. Festus Akanbi, that a review of the constraints currently impacting the performance of the NCS had been undertaken.

Source: The Herald.

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Featured Resource.

The volume of cargo has gone down tremendously due to the free fall of naira to dollars. FAAN is making frantic effort to control the influx of unwanted agents. FAAN has finally separated the entry and exit gate for vehicles while passengers still maintain the normal entry gate.

No charges in operation.

Vincent Orhurhu.

Assistant Airfreight Manager

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