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MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

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PRESIDENT MAHAMA BREAKS GROUND FOR MULTI-PURPOSE CAR PARK AND AIRPORT HOTEL COMPLEX AT ACCRA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

President John Dramani Mahama cut the sod for the construction of a multi-purpose, multi-tiered car park and airport hotel complex at the Accra International Airport, describing the project as a strategic investment in Ghana's aviation infrastructure and a response to the growing demand for improved airport facilities.

The project formed part of ongoing efforts to modernise and expand the country's aviation infrastructure, improve passenger experience and position Ghana as a competitive aviation hub in Africa.

Speaking at the ceremony, President Mahama said the development was not merely another construction project, but an investment aimed at preparing Ghana's principal international gateway for the demands of the future.

He noted that the Accra International Airport had experienced significant growth in passenger traffic, increasing from 1.8 million passengers in 2022 to 2.5 million passengers in 2025.

TOP STORIES

- Deputy Minister for Transport inaugurates J.K. Horgle transport and Logistics Centre at the UPSA
- Minister for Transport commissions new DVLA office in Asuogyaman
- Government reaffirms commitment to safer motorcycle transport as Ghana hosts 2026 SAHI summit
- Minister for Transport Inaugurates National committee to implement ECOWAS Common policy on aviation charges, taxes and fees
- Transport Minister calls for stronger measures to curb Motorcycle-Related road deaths
- Global Mercy Docks at Tema Port as Ghana renews commitment to humanitarian healthcare and Regional cooperation
- Transport Minister moves to speed up container clearance, inspects port facility and Mpakadan Rail
- "Let us prove to Ghanaians that we can ride Safely" – Transport Minister urges Motorcycle, Tricycle and Quadricycle Operators
- New Volta Lake Port to boost cargo movement, decongest Tema Port – Transport Minister
- Transport Minister calls for an integrated and sustainable transport infrastructure to drive Ghana's Economic Transformation
- Transport Minister launches nationwide sensitisation on the new road traffic laws and regulations

DEPUTY MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT INAUGURATES J.K. HORGLE TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS CENTRE AT THE UPSA

The Deputy Minister for Transport, Hon. Dorcas Affo-Toffey, has described the launch of the J.K. Horgle Transport and Logistics Centre at the University of Professional Studies, Accra (UPSA) as a bold step towards building a modern, innovative and globally competitive transport and logistics sector.

Speaking at the Launch, Hon. Affo-Toffey said the establishment of the Centre demonstrates Ghana's commitment to developing human capital, research capacity and industry partnerships required to transform the country's transport sector and support national development.

She noted that transport remains the backbone of Ghana's economy, while logistics continue to drive trade, investment, food security and job creation; however, persistent gaps in technical skills, research and data, as well as collaboration among academia, government and industry, continue to limit the sector's full potential.

She explained that the newly established Centre presents a strategic opportunity to bridge these gaps by serving as a hub for professional training, executive education, applied research and evidence-based policy development.

Hon. Affo-Toffey stated that the Ministry expects the Centre to equip transport professionals with competencies in planning, fleet management, operations management, cold-chain logistics, digital supply chains, corridor compliance and sustainable transport solutions. She further explained the need for Ghana to embrace technological innovation, stating that artificial intelligence, digital logistics systems, predictive maintenance and environmentally sustainable transport solutions have become essential to the future of the industry.

She urged the Centre to position itself at the forefront of research and innovation to prepare professionals capable of leading the sector through this transformation.

She reiterated that the Ministry is committed to working closely with the University through policy development, regulatory reforms, executive training and institutional capacity building to strengthen Ghana's transport ecosystem.

"*By investing in knowledge, innovation and people, we are laying the foundation for a transport sector that is fit for the future. On our side as a Ministry, we stand ready to collaborate with this institution in policy development, regulatory reform, executive training and national capacity building*," she mentioned.

The Deputy Minister also encouraged transport companies, petroleum marketing organisations, development partners and financial institutions to partner with the Centre through internships, scholarships, research funding and professional mentorship to ensure it becomes a catalyst for national development.

She commended Dr. Joseph Kwaku Horgle, whose outstanding contributions to Ghana's haulage industry inspired the establishment of the Centre, describing him as a model of discipline, professionalism and excellence whose legacy will continue to inspire future generations of transport professionals.

The J.K. Horgle Transport and Logistics Centre is expected to serve as a centre of excellence for transport and logistics education, research and innovation, while strengthening collaboration between academia, industry and government to support the Ministry's vision of building a safe, efficient, integrated and sustainable transport system for Ghana.















MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT COMMISSIONS NEW DVLA OFFICE IN ASUOGYAMAN

The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, commissioned a new office of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA) in the Asuogyaman District of the Eastern Region as part of efforts to decentralise DVLA services and bring them closer to the people.

The newly commissioned facility provided residents of Asuogyaman and surrounding communities with access to key services, including vehicle registration and driver's licence acquisition and renewal. The office was the 25th of the 40 new district offices that were established across the country under the DVLA's nationwide expansion programme that year.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe said the establishment of the office would improve access to DVLA services and reduce the inconvenience previously experienced by residents who had to travel long distances to access such services.



He noted that bringing the services closer to the people would also enhance driver education, licensing and professional training, while contributing to greater discipline and safety on the country's roads.

The Minister further urged members of the public to avoid the services of middlemen, popularly known as *goro boys*, and to deal directly with authorised DVLA officials to prevent the acquisition of fraudulent driver's licences and vehicle registration documents.

He reiterated the Government's commitment to strengthening the use of technology in transport management and road safety enforcement. He indicated that plans were underway to introduce number plates embedded with SIM technology to support law enforcement agencies in monitoring vehicles and enhancing road safety.

The Deputy Minister for Finance and Member of Parliament for Asuogyaman, Hon. Thomas Nyarko Ampem, welcomed the establishment of the new office, noting that it would bring significant relief to drivers, riders and vehicle owners in the district who previously had to travel to Somanya, Ho or other locations to access DVLA services.

The Chief Executive of the DVLA, Mr. Julius Neequaye Kotey, also highlighted the Authority's efforts to strengthen the integrity and security of vehicle registration and licensing services through technology. He disclosed that the Authority's vehicle cloning detection technology had helped identify and impound about 200 vehicles within six weeks.
The commissioning ceremony was also attended by the Eastern Regional Minister, Hon. Rita Akosua Adjei Awatey, the District Chief Executive, traditional authorities and other stakeholders.

The establishment of the Asuogyaman DVLA office formed part of the Government's broader commitment to improving access to essential public services, reducing travel time and cost for citizens, and strengthening efficient, accessible and customer-centred service delivery across the country.















GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO SAFER MOTORCYCLE TRANSPORT AS GHANA HOSTS 2026 SAHI SUMMIT



The Government of Ghana reaffirmed its commitment to improving motorcycle safety and strengthening road safety systems as Ghana hosted the 2026 Safe African Helmets Initiative (SAHI) Summit in Accra.

Speaking at the opening of the summit, the Chief of Staff, Hon. Dr. Julius Debrah, stated that the passage of the Road Traffic Amendment Act 2025 (Act 1153) had provided a legal framework for the commercial use of motorcycles, tricycles and quadricycles, while also reducing the minimum age for commercial drivers from 25 to 21 years.

According to him, legislation alone could not guarantee safer roads, stressing that effective implementation required public education, appropriate standards, rider training, responsible enforcement and strong collaboration with riders.

"A law does not by itself train the rider, remove an unsafe helmet from the market or apply the rules fairly. That requires coordination, public education, proper standards, responsible enforcement and the cooperation of the riders themselves," the Chief of Staff stated.

He therefore called for sustained attention to helmet standards, testing and certification, rider training, licensing, enforcement and public awareness, noting that enforcement had to be fair and consistent and had to be understood by riders and passengers as a measure to protect lives rather than to burden them.

"The true measure of our efforts will be found on ordinary roads long after this summit has ended; every head deserves a safe helmet. Every journey deserves a safe return, and every life saved is a family kept home," he said.

Speaking on behalf of the SAHI, the Programmes Director of the FIA Foundation, Agnieszka Krasnolucka-Hickman, said motorcycle safety had become an increasingly urgent issue as motorcycle use continued to expand across Africa. She noted that motorcycles played an important role in transportation systems across the continent because they were affordable, versatile and efficient, particularly for delivery and taxi services.

She added that motorcycle fatalities in Africa had doubled since 2013 and that riders faced a substantially higher risk of death in a crash compared with occupants of cars. She further stressed that head injuries remained a major cause of motorcycle fatalities.

Ms. Krasnolucka-Hickman explained that quality helmets could significantly reduce the risk of death and serious brain injury, making the establishment and enforcement of helmet standards an essential component of road safety policy. According to her,

countries had to not only legislate helmet standards but also ensure that markets could provide affordable, certified, and quality helmets to motorcycle riders.

Ms. Krasnolucka-Hickman said the central objective of SAHI was to ensure that every person travelling on a motorcycle had access to a certified helmet, describing the goal as timely and critical to achieving the global target of a 50 per cent reduction in road deaths by 2030.

She commended Ghana's commitment to motorcycle safety and acknowledged the collaboration of key institutions, including the Ministry of Transport, the National Road Safety Authority, the Ghana Standards Authority, the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority, the Ghana Police Service and the Ghana Revenue Authority, as well as motorcycle riders' associations.

As Ghana continued to strengthen its transport and road safety systems, the SAHI Summit provided an important platform for sharing knowledge and developing coordinated approaches to address the growing safety challenges associated with motorcycle transportation.









MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT INAUGURATES NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO IMPLEMENT ECOWAS COMMON POLICY ON AVIATION CHARGES, TAXES AND FEES



The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, inaugurated the National Implementation Committee for the ECOWAS Supplementary Act relating to the Common Policy on Aviation Charges, Taxes and Fees.

The inauguration marked a step towards Ghana's implementation of the ECOWAS Supplementary Act, which the Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) had adopted in December 2024 and which took effect on 1st July 2026.

The Supplementary Act sought to promote a more harmonised approach to aviation charges, taxes and fees within the ECOWAS sub-region, with the aim of making air transport more affordable, accessible and competitive across West Africa.

The newly inaugurated Committee played a key role in coordinating and monitoring Ghana's implementation and compliance with the provisions of the Supplementary Act.

Its responsibilities included assessing the financial, legislative, operational and institutional implications of implementing the ECOWAS Common Policy on Aviation Charges, Taxes and Fees, as well as identifying relevant measures needed to support its effective implementation in the country.

The Committee was also expected to submit periodic implementation reports to the Ministry of Transport for onward transmission to the ECOWAS Commission.

The establishment of the National Implementation Committee demonstrated Ghana's commitment to implementing regional policies aimed at promoting greater cooperation and integration within the aviation sector.

The implementation of the Common Policy was expected to contribute to efforts to improve the affordability of air travel, enhance connectivity and promote the development of a more competitive and sustainable aviation industry in the West African sub-region.

The ten-member National Implementation Committee was chaired by Mr. William Kartey, with Rev. Stephen Arthur serving as Co-Chair.

The other members of the Committee were Mrs. Patience Bonsu, Mr. Edward Agbodjan, Ms. Nana Ama Kankam, Mr. Sarkodie Kwadwo Abrefa, Ms. Cynthia Kukah, Mr. Federick Nikoi, Mr. Mawuto Anku and Ms. Eloina Baddoo.





TRANSPORT MINISTER CALLS FOR STRONGER MEASURES TO CURB MOTORCYCLE-RELATED ROAD DEATHS



The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, called for stronger collaboration, enforcement and practical interventions to reduce motorcycle-related crashes and fatalities across Ghana and Africa.

Speaking at the opening of the Third Safe African Helmets Initiative (SAHI) Summit in Accra, the Minister said the growing use of motorcycles as a means of transportation had to be matched with deliberate measures to protect riders and passengers.

The Minister noted that motorcycles played an important role in moving people and goods but remained a major road-safety concern, highlighting that 1,345 of the 2,949 road fatalities recorded in Ghana in 2025 involved motorcycle crashes. He said the Government had adopted a proactive approach encompassing education, enforcement and emergency response.

He added that recent road traffic reforms had also introduced measures including a separate category of commercial rider licence, a minimum age of 21 for commercial riders and drivers, improved helmet standards, reduced blood alcohol limits and child-restraint requirements.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe further disclosed that the National Road Safety Authority (NRSA), Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA) and Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) were strengthening the certification and surveillance of helmets on the Ghanaian market to prevent the circulation of sub-standard products. He also announced plans to strengthen traffic enforcement, including the use of speed cameras, while making structured rider education through DVLA-accredited training schools mandatory and expanding road-safety education in local languages.

The Minister also underscored the importance of the Safe African Helmets Initiative (SAHI) as a platform for continental cooperation, noting that no African country could address motorcycle safety in isolation.

He proposed three areas of common action for consideration by the Summit: the development of a shared African helmet standard, the establishment of a permanent cross-border learning network, and a harmonised curriculum for commercial rider training across participating countries.

The Minister said Ghana's participation in SAHI reflected the Government's commitment to building safer and more resilient transport systems, adding that improved crash data would also be pursued through deeper cooperation with the Africa Road Safety Observatory and the World Health Organisation.

He expressed the hope that when the Initiative reconvened the following year, participating countries would return with measurable progress in lives saved and injuries prevented rather than renewed promises.

The Third SAHI Summit brought together governments, road-safety institutions, development partners, experts, rider associations, civil society and academia from across Africa and beyond to advance practical strategies for motorcycle safety.

The Minister commended the FIA Foundation, Transaid and participating partners for their support and for organising the summit.









GLOBAL MERCY DOCKS AT TEMA PORT AS GHANA RENEWS COMMITMENT TO HUMANITARIAN HEALTHCARE AND REGIONAL COOPERATION



The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, welcomed the Global Mercy, the world's largest civilian hospital ship, to the Port of Tema as it began its fifth field service in Ghana.

The arrival of the Global Mercy marked another important chapter in Ghana's longstanding partnership with Mercy Ships and underscored the strategic role of the country's maritime infrastructure in supporting not only trade and commerce but also humanitarian services and regional development.

The hospital ship was officially welcomed at a ceremony attended by government officials, diplomats, healthcare leaders, representatives of Mercy Ships, volunteers and other stakeholders.

Over the ten-month field service, the volunteer medical teams aboard the Global Mercy were expected to provide thousands of free medical services to Ghanaians, including between 1,950 and 2,600 surgical procedures and between 1,610 and 2,145 dental treatments.

The field service also focused on strengthening Ghana's healthcare capacity through the training, mentoring and education of an estimated 100 to 250 Ghanaian healthcare professionals through clinical placements and other learning opportunities aboard the vessel.

Speaking at the welcome ceremony, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe expressed the Ministry of Transport's appreciation to Mercy Ships, its medical teams and volunteers for choosing Ghana once again as a destination for the delivery of humanitarian healthcare services.

He said that as the sector Ministry responsible for Ghana's ports, together with its agencies, the Ministry was delighted to host the Global Mercy at the Port of Tema and support the delivery of critical healthcare services to the people of Ghana.

The Minister commended the crew, medical personnel and volunteers for their commitment to travelling across the world to provide healthcare services free of charge to people in need.

He noted that their dedication and willingness to make their expertise and services available to vulnerable populations demonstrated a strong commitment to humanity and improving lives.

Hon. Nikpe also acknowledged the significant resources required to provide specialised medical services for such operations and expressed Ghana's appreciation to Mercy Ships and its partners for bringing these services to the country.

Highlighting the strategic importance of the Port of

Tema, the Minister said Ghana's ports were not only gateways for maritime trade, cargo and commerce but also important platforms capable of supporting initiatives that served the broader needs of the West African sub-region.

He noted that Ghana's geographical location placed the country at the centre of the West African sub-region and provided an opportunity for its ports to serve neighbouring countries, particularly landlocked countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

According to him, the hosting of the Global Mercy at the Port of Tema provided an opportunity for beneficiaries from Ghana and other countries within the sub-region to access the humanitarian medical services being offered during the ship's stay.

The Minister stressed that Ghana's position as a coastal country and a regional gateway came with a responsibility to facilitate access to essential services and support neighbouring countries that depended on its transport and maritime infrastructure
.
He assured Mercy Ships of the Ministry of Transport's full support and indicated that Ghana's ports would continue to provide the necessary assistance to facilitate the smooth operation of the ship and the delivery of medical services to beneficiaries.

"Any time you call on our ports, whether the Port of Tema or the Port of Takoradi, we will be prepared to receive you and give you the necessary assistance and support," the Minister stated.

On his part, the Minister for Health, Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh, described the arrival of the vessel as part of a partnership between Ghana and Mercy Ships that had spanned more than three decades and had been reaffirmed in 2025.

He noted that the field service complemented Ghana's National Surgical, Obstetric and Anaesthesia Plan, which was launched in 2024 to expand access to safe, timely and equitable surgical care across the country.

According to him, the arrival of the Global Mercy should not be viewed as a stand-alone humanitarian intervention but as a collaborative effort that supported and accelerated Ghana's national healthcare priorities.

The field service was also expected to contribute to the development of Ghana's healthcare workforce through mentoring, education and practical clinical experience for local healthcare professionals.

The Chief Executive Officer of Mercy Ships, Dr. Michelle White, noted that the organisation's return to Tema carried significant historical importance, as the organisation's first hospital ship, the Anastasis, had docked at the Port of Tema more than 30 years earlier. Since 1991, Mercy Ships had provided more than 2,500 surgical procedures in Ghana and had trained close to 3,000 Ghanaian healthcare professionals.

Dr. White indicated that Mercy Ships would continue to work closely with the Ministry of Health, universities and healthcare institutions, including the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Ghana College of Nursing and Midwifery, to ensure that the field service aligned with Ghana's national health priorities.

The organisation was also expected to provide postgraduate training opportunities and clinical placements aboard the Global Mercy as part of its commitment to long-term health system strengthening and locally led capacity development.

The arrival of the Global Mercy at the Port of Tema once again demonstrated the broader role of Ghana's transport and maritime infrastructure in facilitating national development, regional integration and international cooperation.

Beyond its traditional role as a gateway for trade and commerce, the Port of Tema, through the arrival of the Global Mercy, became a gateway for hope, healing and humanitarian service for thousands of people in Ghana and potentially across the West African sub-region.

As the Global Mercy began its ten-month field service, the Ministry of Transport remained committed to working with relevant institutions and partners to ensure the smooth operation of the vessel and support the successful delivery of its humanitarian mission.

The Ministry also reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening Ghana's ports and maritime infrastructure to support trade, tourism, regional integration and other strategic national and international initiatives that contributed to the wellbeing and development of the people of Ghana and the wider West African sub-region.








Welcome





YOUR HEALTH OUR CONCERN



TURKEY BERRIES (Abedru / Kantosi / Kwehu nsusua/ Anona Ntroba)

Turkey berries offer rich iron and antioxidant content that helps combat anemia, lower blood sugar, and support digestion.

KEY HEALTTH BENEFITS

1. Fights Anemia
2. Manages Blood Sugar
3. Improves Digestion
4. Reduces Inflammation
5. Supports Heart Health
6. Helps in protecting against cancer

SAFETY AND CONSUMPTION

Raw turkey berries contain natural compounds called glycoalkaloids that can cause stomach ache or dizziness in large amounts. Cooking or eating fully ripe berries reduces this risk.

PRESIDENT MAHAMA BREAKS GROUND FOR MULTI-PURPOSE CAR PARK AND AIRPORT HOTEL COMPLEX AT ACCRA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



President John Dramani Mahama cut the sod for the construction of a multi-purpose, multi-tiered car park and airport hotel complex at the Accra International Airport, describing the project as a strategic investment in Ghana's aviation infrastructure and a response to the growing demand for improved airport facilities.

The project formed part of ongoing efforts to modernise and expand the country's aviation infrastructure, improve passenger experience and position Ghana as a competitive aviation hub in Africa.

Speaking at the ceremony, President Mahama said the development was not merely another construction project, but an investment aimed at preparing Ghana's principal international gateway for the demands of the future.

He noted that the Accra International Airport had experienced significant growth in passenger traffic, increasing from 1.8 million passengers in 2022 to 2.5 million passengers in 2025. According to him, while the growth reflected Ghana's expanding air connectivity and attractiveness as a destination for business, tourism and investment, it had also placed increasing pressure on the airport's roads, parking facilities, passenger pick-up and drop-off areas and overall operations.

President Mahama explained that the multi-purpose complex would provide a timely and practical solution to the growing congestion and the limited parking capacity at the airport.

Highlighting the importance of technology in the project, President Mahama said the facility would incorporate automatic number plate recognition, a cashless and ticketless parking system, parking guidance systems, electric vehicle charging points and a centralised CCTV surveillance system.

He said these technologies would improve traffic management, strengthen security, reduce delays and ensure a more convenient and seamless experience for passengers and other airport users.

The President further emphasised that modern airport infrastructure had to go beyond serving aircraft and passengers, noting that airports had increasingly become centres for commerce, hospitality, logistics and business.

"Our strategy therefore is not merely to attract more passengers to Ghana. It is to make Ghana a preferred destination, a convenient transit point and a competitive aviation hub in Africa," he stated.

President Mahama also urged the contractors and consultants to ensure quality work, value for money,

strict adherence to specifications and timely completion of the project.

He stressed that the sod-cutting ceremony represented the beginning of a project that had to be completed, commissioned and put to productive use for the benefit of Ghanaians.

The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, described the project as a major milestone in the ongoing transformation of Ghana's aviation sector and reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to supporting the development of modern, efficient and passenger-friendly aviation infrastructure.

He noted that, with a parking capacity of over 2,000 vehicles and the development of both budget and premium hotel facilities, the project would significantly enhance convenience, improve traffic management, strengthen security and elevate the overall passenger experience at the Accra International Airport.

According to the Minister, the development would also create employment opportunities, generate substantial non-aeronautical revenue and unlock the commercial value of airport lands, contributing to Ghana's broader economic transformation and the 24-hour economy agenda.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe added that the project formed part of several ongoing investments in the aviation sector, including the construction of a new Air Traffic Control Tower, the repurposing of Terminal 2, runway expansion works and the installation of advanced air navigation and surveillance systems.

He explained that these investments, together with the recently commenced connecting concourse project between Terminals 2 and 3, would strengthen safety, improve operational efficiency and enhance service delivery within Ghana's aviation sector.

The Minister reaffirmed the Ministry of Transport's commitment to closely monitoring the implementation of the various aviation infrastructure projects to ensure their successful completion.

When completed, the multi-purpose car park and airport hotel complex was expected to ease vehicular congestion, improve passenger convenience, strengthen airport security and transform the Accra International Airport into a vibrant 24-hour commercial and aviation hub.

The development would further support the Government's vision of strengthening Ghana's position as a preferred aviation hub in Africa while creating new opportunities for trade, tourism, investment and employment.









"LET US PROVE TO GHANAIANS THAT WE CAN RIDE SAFELY" – TRANSPORT MINISTER UGES MOTORCYCLE, TRICYCLE AND QUADRICYCLE OPERATORS

The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, has urged motorcycle, tricycle and quadricycle operators to demonstrate responsibility and strict adherence to road traffic regulations as Ghana prepares for the full commercialisation of motorcycles, tricycles and quadricycles. He made the call at the launch of the Safe Journey Road Safety Campaign, organised by the National Road Safety Authority (NRSA) in collaboration with Somoco, in Accra.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe said the campaign forms part of efforts to promote safety, awareness and responsible road use as Government undertakes processes towards the official rollout of the commercial use of motorcycles, tricycles and quadricycles in Ghana. He explained that the initiative is expected to improve mobility, create employment opportunities and provide transport services to underserved communities where conventional transport services may not be readily available.

He noted that motorcycles, popularly known as Okada, have become an important means of transportation, supporting economic activities and providing mobility to people in areas where traditional transport services may be limited. He added that the Government recognises the importance of diversifying employment opportunities and improving access to transportation, which informed the decision to amend the relevant road traffic laws to facilitate the commercial use of motorcycles, tricycles and quadricycles.

The Minister explained that the legal and regulatory processes are being supported by public education, awareness creation, training and other measures aimed at ensuring that operators are adequately prepared before the full implementation of the policy.
Addressing concerns about the potential increase in road crashes and fatalities following the commercialisation of motorcycles, Hon. Bukari Nikpe stressed that the success of the initiative would depend largely on the discipline and responsible behaviour of operators.

He urged riders to respect traffic regulations, road signs and other road users, while drawing lessons from countries such as Togo and Rwanda, where motorcycle operators demonstrate greater discipline and compliance with road traffic regulations.

The Minister noted that every rider must recognise that responsible behaviour on the road is essential to ensuring they return safely to their families and loved ones after every journey.

He also called on persons intending to engage in the commercial operation of motorcycles, tricycles and quadricycles to undergo proper training and familiarise themselves with the country's road traffic regulations. He encouraged prospective operators to access training through the appropriate institutions, including the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA), and to make the use of helmets and protective gear a priority.

"Wearing a helmet is not a burden on your head; it is to save your life. Protective gear could reduce the severity of injuries in the event of a road crash," Hon. Nikpe stated.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe further disclosed that the Government is deploying technology to support road traffic enforcement and assist the Motor Traffic and Transport Department (MTTD) of the Ghana Police Service in identifying road traffic offenders. He noted that technological interventions, including Traffitech, would assist the MTTD in detecting and recording traffic violations and promote greater compliance among road users. He therefore cautioned motorcycle, tricycle and quadricycle operators to comply with traffic laws, stressing that technology would increasingly support efforts to monitor road users and enforce regulations.

He reiterated the commitment of the Ministry of Transport and its agencies in ensuring the successful implementation of the commercialisation of motorcycles, tricycles and quadricycles in a manner that supports Ghana's transport needs and economic development.

He called on operators and all stakeholders to support the initiative by embracing safety, discipline, training and responsible road use.

"*Let us impress Ghanaians, prove to Ghanaians, and show Ghanaians that this commercialisation will serve our economy and help us reach underserved areas when it comes to transportation,"* the Minister noted.










Stay Alive!



NEW VOLTA LAKE PORT TO BOOST CARGO MOVEMENT, DECONGEST TEMA PORT – TRANSPORT MINISTER



The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, paid a working visit to the Volta Lake Transport Limited (VLTL) to inspect ongoing works towards the establishment of a new port that will complement the existing facility and position inland water transport as a critical transport network to decongest Tema Port.

The proposed port forms part of the Government's ambitious strategy to develop an integrated multimodal transport system that will also reduce pressure on the country's road infrastructure and facilitate the efficient movement of cargo to northern Ghana and neighbouring landlocked countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger through a more reliable and cost-effective transport network.

The visit enabled the Minister to assess the progress of ongoing infrastructure works, engage management and staff on operational challenges, and outline the government's long-term vision for transforming Volta Lake transport into a modern cargo and passenger transportation corridor.

Addressing management and staff after the inspection, Hon. Bukari Nikpe described Volta Lake as one of Ghana's greatest but underutilised national assets, stressing that government is determined to maximise its economic potential through strategic investment in ports, barges and cargo-handling infrastructure. He explained that the Ministry's objective is to create a seamless transport chain linking rail, inland water and road transport into one efficient logistics system.

"Our thinking is to decongest the Port of Tema by creating a multimodal transport system. Goods will move by rail from Tema to Mpakadan, continue by lake transport to Buipe, and then be transported by road to other parts of northern Ghana and the landlocked neighbours," the Minister stated.

According to him, the integrated system will significantly reduce congestion on major highways, prolong the lifespan of newly constructed roads, and improve the efficiency of Ghana's freight transport sector.

The Minister applauded the management and staff of VLTL for their dedication and resilience despite operational challenges, noting that their commitment has been instrumental in the progress achieved by the company. He encouraged the staff to maintain the momentum, assuring them that the projects currently underway would become one of the landmark achievements under the administration of President John Dramani Mahama.

As part of the broader logistics strategy, the Minister announced the government's intention to construct a round port at Mpakadan to facilitate the loading of containers and other cargo onto barges operating on the Volta Lake.

He explained that the facility would serve as a vital interchange between rail and inland water transport, enabling containers arriving from Tema to be transferred efficiently onto lake vessels destined for Buipe and beyond.

The staff of Volta Lake Transport Limited expressed profound appreciation to the Minister for his visit, describing it as historic. According to the workers, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe is the first Minister for Transport to visit the facility in the past ten years, a gesture they said had significantly boosted morale and renewed confidence in the future of the company.

They assured the Minister of their unwavering commitment to supporting the government's vision of revitalising inland water transport and requested him to convey their dedication and achievements to the President.

The staff noted that the Minister's personal interaction with employees demonstrated the government's willingness to engage directly with frontline workers and appreciate their contribution to national

development.

The new port project forms a central component of Ghana's intermodal transport agenda, which seeks to integrate the country's maritime, railway, inland water and road transport systems into a unified logistics framework. Under the proposed model, Cargo arriving at the Port of Tema will be transported by rail to Mpakadan. Containers will then be transferred onto barges across the Volta Lake to Buipe, and from Buipe, goods will continue by road to northern Ghana and neighbouring landlocked countries.

The system is expected to reduce transportation costs, improve turnaround time for cargo and minimise the heavy concentration of freight vehicles on Ghana's highways.

The project was also expected to stimulate economic growth along the Volta Lake by creating new opportunities in trade, agriculture, tourism, warehousing and transport services.

Communities situated along the lake are expected to benefit from improved connectivity, while businesses will gain access to safer and more efficient alternatives for transporting bulk cargo and passengers.

The development also aligns with the government's broader objective of enhancing regional trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) by strengthening transport links between Ghana and neighbouring economies.

Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe expressed optimism that the ongoing transformation of the VLTL would become a model for public sector excellence. He urged management and staff to work together in rebuilding the institution, saying he was confident that within the next two years the company would become one of the country's most viable transport agencies.

"We are blessed with this resource, and the best thing is to utilise it. I believe that two years from now, we will all be proud that we are building the Ghana we want together," he said.

The Minister's visit underscores the government's renewed commitment to unlocking the enormous potential of inland water transport and ensuring that the Volta Lake becomes a strategic engine for trade, industry and sustainable national development.









TRANSPORT MINISTER MOVES TO SPEED UP CONTAINER CLEARANCE, INSPECTS PORT FACILITY AND MPAKADAN RAIL



The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, has taken steps to help address delays in the clearance of containers at the Tema port as part of efforts to reduce congestion and improve the efficiency of Ghana's trade and logistics sector.

During a working visit to Meridian Port Services (MPS) at the Port of Tema, the Minister engaged management on measures to accelerate the inspection and clearance of containers to reduce the current congestion at the port.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe assured MPS of the government's commitment to working with all relevant institutions to address the challenges associated with container clearance. He said the Ministry of Transport would collaborate with other Ministries whose agencies are involved in the inspection, processing and clearance of containers at the harbour to ensure that the various procedures were streamlined and carried out more efficiently.

According to the Minister, improving the coordination among the agencies responsible for container inspections and clearance would be critical to reducing unnecessary delays and ensuring that cargo moves through the port within the shortest possible time.

He stressed that the government was concerned about the time containers stayed at the port and would take the necessary steps to improve the situation.

The Minister noted that delays in the clearance process had a direct impact on businesses and consumers because additional costs incurred in demurrage are eventually passed on to consumers.

He stressed that the issue of container delays was not only a port operational concern but also had wider implications for the economy and the cost of goods and services. He therefore called for greater efficiency and coordination among the various agencies involved in the clearance process to reduce the time and cost associated with cargo handling.

As part of his visit aimed at decongesting the port, Hon. Nikpe continued to Mpakadan to inspect ongoing works on the rail and port facilities being developed to support the movement of containers from the Port of Tema to destinations in northern Ghana and the landlocked countries that rely on Ghana's ports.

The inspection provided the Minister with an opportunity to assess progress on the infrastructure and examine how the facilities could contribute to improving the efficiency of Ghana's cargo transportation.

The Mpakadan rail project is expected to provide an important link in the country's emerging intermodal transport system by connecting the rail and marine modes of transportation to facilitate the movement of cargo from the Port of Tema.

The initiative is intended to provide an alternative and more efficient means of transporting containers from the Tema Port, thereby helping to reduce congestion and improve the movement of goods.

During the inspection, the Minister commended the Ghana Railway Development Authority (GRDA) for the work undertaken so far and encouraged the Authority to continue collaborating with other stakeholders like the Volta Lake Transport Limited (VLTL) and the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (GPHA) to ensure that the infrastructure is brought into operation as soon as possible.

According to the Minister, completing the infrastructure alone would not be sufficient; the various institutions involved must work together to ensure that the facilities become operational and deliver the intended benefits to the economy.

He urged the relevant agencies to maintain close coordination so that the investments being made in the transport sector could translate into tangible improvements in cargo movement.

The Minister's engagement with MPS and his subsequent inspection of the Mpakadan facilities demonstrate the government's focus on addressing the challenge of the cargo movement process, ensuring that containers are cleared and transported efficiently to their final destinations.

The Minister therefore emphasised the need for all institutions involved in the cargo clearance and transportation chain to work together to remove bottlenecks and improve efficiency.

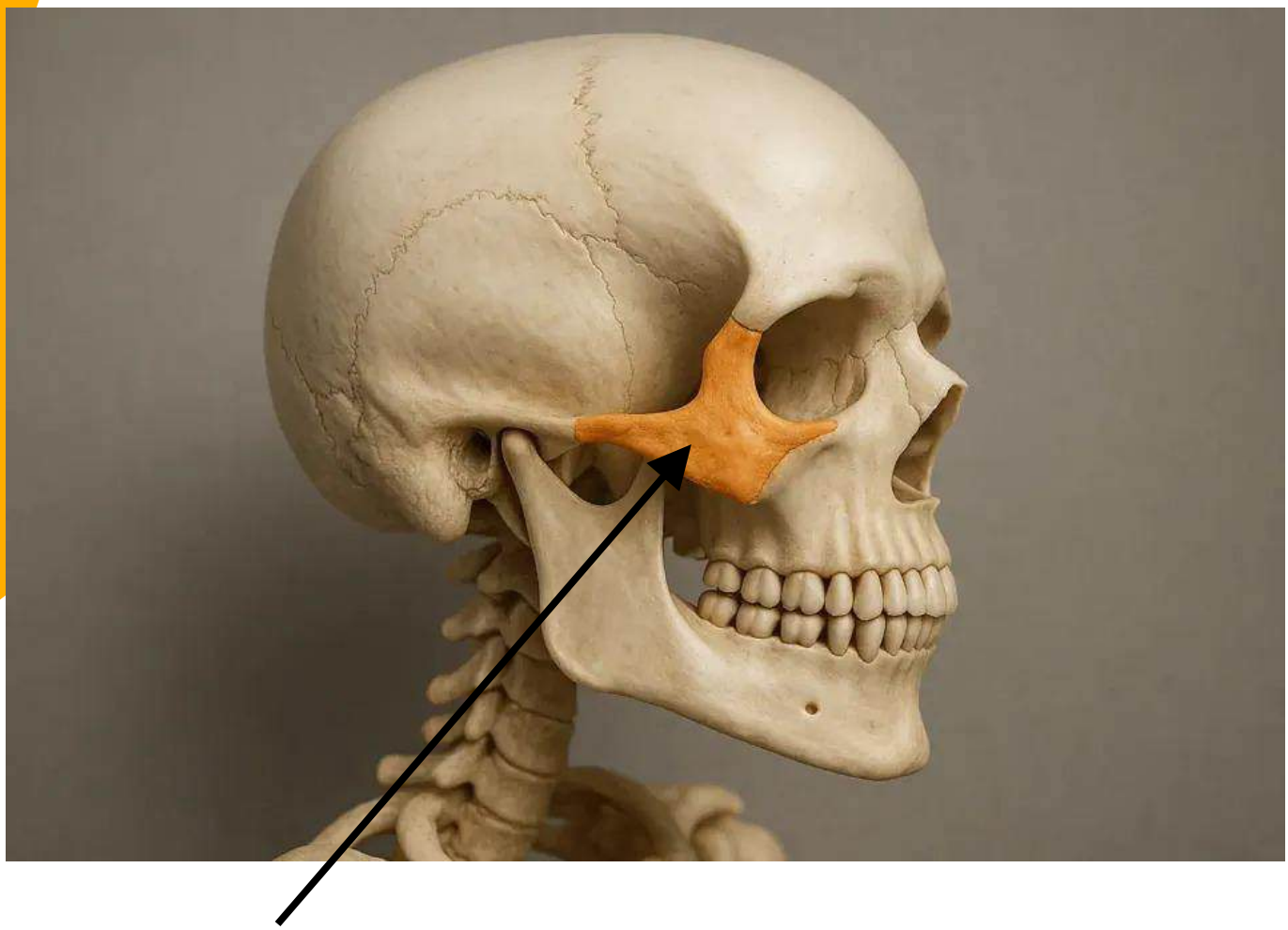
Together, the engagements form part of a broader strategy to improve Ghana's logistics infrastructure and establish a more seamless cargo movement system.
The Minister's working tours are expected to continue as the Ministry of Transport intensifies efforts to identify bottlenecks within the transport sector and work with relevant institutions to improve the overall efficiency of Ghana's transportation and logistics system.







DID YOU KNOW



ZYGOMATIC BONE

The zygomatic bone, commonly known as the cheekbone or malar bone, is a paired, diamond-shaped facial bone that forms the prominent contours of the cheeks and helps construct the walls of the eye sockets (orbits).

ROTUND

Rotund is an adjective. It is used to describe someone who is big or round in shape. Instead of saying "the man is fat or big", you rather say "the man is rotund".

PETRICHOR

Petrichor is the pleasant, earthy scent that fills the air when rain falls on dry soil or rock

TRANSPORT MINISTER CALLS FOR AN INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE TO DRIVE GHANA'S ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, has called for sustained investment, resilient and integrated transport infrastructure and services to support Ghana's economic transformation and the implementation of the Government's 24-Hour Economy Policy.

The Minister made the call at the 2026 Transport Sector Review Conference held in the Volta Region under the theme, "*Financing and Delivery of Resilient Transport Infrastructure and Services: A Big Push for Sustainable Economic Transformation*."

Hon. Bukari Nikpe said the realignment of the Ministry of Transport under the current administration was intended to enable Government to manage aviation, railways, maritime transport, inland waterways and road transport as one interconnected system.

He explained that the integrated approach would allow ports to connect efficiently with rail and road networks, railways to link production centres to markets, inland waterways to complement road transport, and aviation to support business and tourism.

The Minister said such integration was essential to the success of the 24-Hour Economy Policy because economic activity cannot operate around the clock if workers, raw materials and finished goods cannot move safely, affordably and predictably.

"*Our task is therefore not simply to build more transport infrastructure. It is to finance and deliver the right infrastructure and services, in the right places, to the right standards, and in a manner that is resilient, sustainable and responsive to our economic needs*," he stated.

Touching on the railway sub-sector, the Minister highlighted the completion of the 97-kilometre Tema-Mpakadan standard-gauge railway line, with passenger services between Tema and Afienya commencing in October 2025.

He disclosed that the Ghana Railway Development Authority (GRDA) was taking steps to commence freight operations on the line and had procured two diesel locomotives and 20 wagons. As part of the preparations include the development of a port facility at the lakefront to facilitate the transfer of cargo between rail and the Volta Lake.

On the Western Line, the Minister said works on the Takoradi Port-Huni Valley section, which stalled in 2024, resumed in August 2025. Completion of the



section is expected to facilitate the haulage of mineral ore to the Takoradi Port.

The Minister also outlined major developments in the maritime and inland waterways sub-sector, including the completion of the first phase of the Takoradi Multi-Purpose Terminal, the Oil and Gas Service Terminal and a new Liquid Bulk Terminal.

The Liquid Bulk Terminal is designed to accommodate vessels carrying up to 60,000 tonnes of petroleum cargo and handle products including diesel, LPG, bitumen and other heavy fuels.

He mentioned that, at the Tema Port, the retooling of MPS Terminal 3 with 11 ship-to-shore cranes, two mobile harbour cranes and 29 cranes has enhanced the port's capacity to receive and service larger container vessels. Work is also ongoing on the Keta Port Project, with 82% completion of the administrative block, which is expected to become Ghana's third seaport to contribute to the development of a maritime industrial enclave in the Volta Region.

He added that the Ministry has further commenced Phase One of the Boankra Integrated Logistics Terminal, aimed at facilitating transit trade along Ghana's corridor and helping to decongest the Port of Tema.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe noted that the Ministry has constructed 12 fish landing sites, or mini ports, at selected locations along the coast. This has been complemented by the rehabilitation and expansion of the Elmina Fishing Port and construction of a new fishing port at Jamestown in Accra.

In the aviation sub-sector, the Minister said Ghana has strengthened its safety and security standards, positioning the country among the top-performing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa in aviation security performance and oversight capability.

He noted that the completion of the upgrade of Tamale Airport and the expansion of Kumasi Airport into an international airport are developments which have improved the movement of people, goods and services while creating opportunities for tourism and economic growth.

The Minister also highlighted the entry and expansion of international airlines, including IBOM Air, ITA Airways, British Airways operating from Gatwick to Accra, and Kenya Airways.

He further disclosed that an Advance Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) system has also been introduced to strengthen safety and security at Ghana's airports. He further noted that a ten-member task force has been established and is working to guide the establishment of a new national air carrier.

In the road transport services sub-sector, the Minister highlighted reforms that have been introduced aimed at improving service delivery, road safety and sustainability. He noted that the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 2025, Act 1135, which provides the legal framework for the regulated operation of motorcycles and tricycles, as well as the Road Traffic Regulations, 2026 (L.I. 2519), have been approved by Parliament.

He also commended the transformation of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA) through digitisation and automation, including the introduction of new vehicle registration and driver licensing systems.

Additionally, he noted that the Ministry has completed the procurement of 100 new intercity buses for Metro Mass Transit Limited to augment its operations and support the provision of affordable, reliable and efficient mass public transport.
Despite the progress recorded, Hon. Bukari Nikpe identified road safety as the sector's most pressing challenge. He disclosed that road traffic fatalities reached 2,954 in 2025, the highest level in more than two decades, while reported crashes increased by 31.6 per cent between 2021 and 2025. He described the situation as a national emergency requiring urgent and concerted action.

The Minister also cited financing constraints affecting railway development, damage to railway track formations caused by illegal mining activities, deteriorating vessel turnaround times at the Port of Tema, as well as land encroachment and obsolete communication, navigation and surveillance equipment as challenges requiring attention.

He stressed that Ghana's transport development must go beyond the construction of individual infrastructure projects to creating an interconnected and resilient transport network capable of supporting economic activity. He reiterated that the sector's success would depend on financing and delivering infrastructure and services that meet the country's economic needs, while remaining resilient, sustainable and responsive.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe expressed the hope that the three-day conference would provide a platform for stakeholders to assess the sector's performance, confront existing challenges and agree on practical priorities for the next phase of Ghana's transport development.













TRANSPORT MINISTER LAUNCHES NATIONWIDE SENSITISATION ON THE NEW ROAD TRAFFIC LAWS AND REGULATIONS



The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, launched a nationwide dissemination and sensitisation exercise on the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act, 2025 (Act 1153) and the Road Traffic Regulations, 2026 (L.I. 2519) in Accra.

The exercise aimed at strengthening road safety, improving traffic law enforcement and ensuring that road users understand and comply with the new regulations.

Speaking at the event, Hon. Bukari Nikpe said that the new legislative framework was the product of a thorough, transparent and participatory process involving key stakeholders, including Transport Operators, Road Safety Experts, the Ghana Police Service, Road Safety Advocates, Logistics Stakeholders, Okada Riders' Associations, Parliamentary Committees, the National Insurance Commission and automotive standards experts.

He noted that following extensive consultations and engagements, the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act, 2025 (Act 1153) was passed by Parliament and assented to by the President on 24 December 2025, while Parliament approved the Road Traffic Regulations, 2026 (L.I. 2519) on 28 May 2026 to provide practical guidelines for the implementation of the amended law.

The Minister explained that the new legislative regime introduces several significant reforms, including automated traffic enforcement systems such as speed and red-light cameras, a demerit point system linked to drivers' licences, stiffer penalties for serious traffic offences and a reduction in the legal blood alcohol limit from 0.08 to 0.05.

He added that the Regulations also establish stricter standards for commercial and public transport operations, including mandatory speed limits, rest intervals for long-distance drivers, improved vehicle inspection requirements, enhanced protection for vulnerable road users, stricter axle-load controls and specialised licensing for the transportation of hazardous goods.

A key feature of the new framework is the legal backing given to the commercial use of motorcycles, tricycles and quadricycles for fare-paying passenger services, creating a regulated pathway for persons engaged in or seeking to engage in such activities.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe explained that the framework would require appropriate training, licensing, protective equipment and compliance with established road-safety standards, while assuring the public that measures have been incorporated to promote the safe operation of such activities. He further noted that the implementation of the new driver licensing and vehicle registration number plate system is expected to commence early next year.

He stressed that the success of the new framework would depend not only on the laws themselves but also on effective implementation and the cooperation of all stakeholders, including the Ministry of Transport, the National Road Safety Authority (NRSA), the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA), the Motor Traffic and Transport Department (MTTD) of the Ghana Police Service, the National Insurance Commission (NIC), the Ghana Highways Authority, Transport Unions, Operators and Pedestrians.

He therefore called on transport operators, law enforcement agencies, the media and all road users to take ownership of the new regulations and make road safety a daily responsibility, emphasising that no Ghanaian should lose their life by moving from one point to the other.

The Chief Director of the Ministry of Transport, Mr. William Kartey, in welcoming participants, said the evolving nature of Ghana's transport sector made the establishment of a modern and robust governance framework necessary to respond to current developments and emerging challenges. He explained that the Ministry, working with various stakeholders, has reviewed the governance framework to ensure that it remains robust and aligns with modern development trends.

He called on stakeholders to actively engage on the provisions of the new framework and seek clarification on areas requiring further understanding, stressing that road safety is a shared responsibility and that every road user has a role to play in demanding and respecting the rules of the road.

"Road safety is a shared responsibility, and each of us must demand and respect the rules of the road," he stated.

He urged all stakeholders and participants to actively participate in the sensitisation exercise to make Ghana's roads safer for all users, noting that the launch marks the beginning of a nationwide public education campaign that will cover all 16 regions.













SIERRA LEONEAN MINISTER FOR FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES PAYS COURTESY CALL ON TRANSPORT MINISTER

The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, has welcomed the Sierra Leonean Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources, Mrs. Princess Dugba, who paid a courtesy call to discuss collaboration, knowledge-sharing in the maritime sector and have a technical familiarisation tour of the Tema port.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe, in welcoming the delegation, highlighted Ghana's efforts to strengthen its transport sector, particularly in the integration of the rail, marine and road transport modes to facilitate the efficient movement of goods and resources, while stressing that no country can achieve sustainable development without improving its transport system. He emphasised the importance of African countries working together to find home-grown solutions to challenges confronting the continent, noting that Ghana remains open to sharing its experiences and expertise with sister countries.

"*We have to find solutions to our problems within Africa and not anywhere else,"* the Minister said.

The Minister described the relationship among West African countries as one of shared friendship and cooperation in advancing the interests of their people.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe reiterated Ghana's own efforts to learn from other African countries, citing his interest in understanding how successful transport systems in the sub-region have been developed and sustained. He said such exchanges were essential to strengthening regional integration and supporting the movement of people and goods across borders.

Mrs. Dugba, on her part, explained that they were on the visit because Sierra Leone was currently developing an industrial port at Black Johnson with grant support from the Government of China, which includes a jetty, fish market and waste-management infrastructure, among others.

She noted that the management of the new industrial port would be critical to ensuring that Sierra Leone derives maximum benefit from the project, particularly as various manufacturing activities were expected to take place around the facility.

Mrs. Dugba mentioned that her visit to Ghana was to learn from the country's experience in port management and development and apply relevant lessons from Ghana to Sierra Leone. She stated that it was important for African countries to learn from one another and share expertise.

She further noted the strong educational and institutional links between the two countries, particularly through the Regional Maritime University and reaffirmed Sierra Leone's commitment to deepening Ghana-Sierra Leone cooperation.

Mrs. Dugba was assured by the Minister for Transport of Ghana's openness to collaboration, noting that the country considers its transport institutions and facilities part of a broader regional system to serve the people of West Africa.

Assuring Mrs. Dugba of Ghana's openness to cooperation, the Minister for Transport emphasised that the country's transit institutions and networks were built to serve as a regional system for West Africa.

Also present at the meeting were the Chief Director for the Ministry of Transport, Mr. William Kartey, the Deputy Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources of Sierra Leone, Hon. Ahmed Saybom Kanu, the Permanent Secretary of Transport for Sierra Leone and the Sierra Leonean Ambassador to Ghana, H.E. Mohammed Hassan Kaisamba.





TRANSPORT MINISTER MOVES TO EASE CLINKER CONGESTION AT TEMA PORT



The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, has announced a series of measures to ease congestion at the Port of Tema and improve the efficiency of clinker discharge following growing volumes of clinker imports by cement manufacturing companies.

The measures include the completion of dredging works at three berths allocated to cement manufacturers, the temporary addition of a fourth berth, the introduction of a vessel scheduling system and discussions with cement manufacturers about using the Port of Takoradi as an alternative and the use of larger vessels to reduce the number of ships waiting to berth and discharge at the port.

The Minister said this when he visited the Port of Tema together with the Minister for Trade, Agribusiness and Industry and some officials of the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority to assess the causes of delays in the discharge of clinker and engage relevant stakeholders on practical solutions to the congestion.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe explained that the recently completed dredging had increased the draft capacity of the berths, allowing larger vessels to access the port and also disclosed that the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (GPHA) is facilitating a temporary allocation of a fourth berth to complement the three berths already being used by cement manufacturers.
He added that the dredging presented an opportunity for cement manufacturers and shipping lines to move away from the use of smaller vessels to larger ones, which would significantly reduce the number of vessels queuing to discharge.

According to him, shipping lines would be notified of the increased draft capacity to enable them take advantage of the improving conditions at the port. He further encouraged cement manufacturers to explore the possibility of pooling their consignments and using larger vessels for clinker imports, explaining that reducing the number of vessels calling at the port would help ease pressure on the available berths.

The Minister noted that another measure under consideration is the introduction of a scheduling system for cement manufacturers to regulate the arrival of clinker vessels and prevent several vessels from arriving at the port at the same time.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe said cement manufacturers would also be encouraged to secure suitable holding areas close to the Port of Tema to facilitate the prompt evacuation of discharged clinker. This, he explained, would improve vessel turnaround time by ensuring that discharged materials are moved out swiftly and space is created for subsequent vessels.

The Minister further suggested the possible use of the Port of Takoradi as an alternative gateway for some clinker imports, noting that spreading the import volumes across Ghana's ports could help reduce pressure on Tema and minimise demurrage costs.

He added that stakeholders would continue to explore long-term measures to sustain efficient discharge operations at the port as demand for cement-related products continues to grow. He urged cement manufacturers to reconsider planned price increases, stressing that higher prices would not resolve the challenges confronting the sector.

The Minister stressed that the Ministry and its stakeholders would continue working to improve operational efficiency at the Ports to reduce congestion and to ensure the timely movement of cargo.

The Director General (DG) of the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority, Major General Paul Seidu Tanye-Kulono, said the immediate priority was to clear the existing congestion by ensuring that cement vessels were able to discharge their cargo more efficiently. He noted that the long-term objective would be to develop sustainable measures to maintain the smooth handling of cement-related products at the Port of Tema.











YOUR HEALTH OUR CONCERN



PREKESE

Aidan fruit, also known as Prekese (Tetrapleura tetraptera), is a nutrient-rich West African pod packed with vitamins, minerals, and healing compounds.

KEY HEALTTH BENEFITS

1. Fights Inflammation
2. Aids Digestion
3. Postpartum Recovery
4. Supports Heart Health

COMMON USE

Added as a fragrant spice to traditional soups and stews like palm nut soup.
Boiled in water to make a healing wellness drink.

"POLICIES MUST MOVE BEYOND PAPER" - TRANSPORT MINISTER CALLS FOR ACTION TO DRIVE MARITIME EXCELLENCE

The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, has called for the effective implementation of maritime policies to translate Ghana's strategic position and maritime resources into greater economic value, job opportunities and sustainable development.

Speaking at the commemoration of World Maritime Day 2026 at the Ghana Maritime Authority, under the theme "From Policy to Practice: Powering Maritime Excellence," the Minister said Ghana's maritime sector remains a critical pillar of the economy, facilitating international trade, supporting industry and agriculture, creating employment and strengthening regional economic integration.

He stressed that the country's focus should no longer be on developing the maritime sector only, but also on how effectively policies can be translated into practical outcomes for the benefit of Ghanaians.

Hon. Bukari Nikpe mentioned a number of interventions being pursued by Government through the Ministry and its agencies to position Ghana as a leading maritime hub in West Africa. These include the expansion of Tema Port, the implementation of 24-hour port operations and efforts to transform the Takoradi Port into a stronger oil and gas service and cargo hub, alongside investments to strengthen ship repair and offshore services.

He noted that infrastructure alone would not make Ghana a maritime hub, stressing that effective policies and regulations, strong institutions, adequate resources and skilled personnel must work together to deliver measurable results.

He welcomed the Ghana Maritime Authority's "From Policy to Practice Roadmap" under the 2026 and 2027 World Maritime Day Programme, describing it as an opportunity to identify implementation gaps, establish timelines and develop sustainable indicators for measuring progress.

The Minister also called for closer examination of the implementation of maritime regulations, institutional collaboration, protection of seafarers and fishing communities, prevention of marine pollution and increased digitisation of Ghana's ports. He further stressed the need for the country to derive the full economic value from its maritime resources, particularly in creating opportunities for the growing number of young people seeking employment.

Reaffirming Government's commitment to the sector, Hon. Bukari Nikpe said efforts were being made to support the Ghana Maritime Authority in establishing hydrographic capacity in Ghana to produce its own navigational maps and charts, which he said would support navigation while creating additional employment opportunities.

He also highlighted planned investments in port expansion to improve port access and rail connectivity to facilitate the efficient and timely movement of cargo.

The Minister urged maritime stakeholders to strengthen collaboration, coordination and support in moving policies from the planning stage to practical implementation. He expressed the hope that a more integrated maritime sector would enable Ghana to maximise the benefits of its strategic location, create jobs and contribute to economic transformation in Ghana and Africa as a whole.

















ASIKUMA INTERMODAL PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN TEMA PORT DECONGESTION AND CARGO MOVEMENT

The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, has inspected the site earmarked for the development of a ramp port and cargo terminal at Asikuma in the Eastern Region, aimed at supporting the decongestion of the Tema Port and improving the movement of goods and passengers across the country.

The project, which forms part of Government's broader vision of developing an efficient and integrated intermodal transport system, will include the construction of the ramp port, railway connection and a cargo terminal. The facility is expected to provide an alternative route for the movement of cargo from the Tema Port, helping to reduce pressure on the existing road network and improve the efficiency of freight transportation.

Speaking during the site inspection, Hon. Bukari Nikpe reiterated Government's determination to establish a well-connected transport system in which road, rail and inland water transport complement each other to facilitate the movement of people and goods. He explained that the full benefits of Government's intermodal transport strategy would be realised when the various ongoing projects are completed and operationalised, particularly projects designed to connect major transport corridors and improve access to Ghana's ports.

The Asikuma project is being undertaken by LMI Holdings as part of efforts to develop a multimodal logistics network that integrates rail, inland waterways and road transport. The development is expected to strengthen the connection between the Tema Port, inland destinations and our landlock neighbours via rail, inland waterways and road, while creating an efficient platform for the transfer of cargo. Under the construction schedule, the ramp port and railway component are expected to be completed within a 24-month phase, while the cargo terminal is expected to be delivered within 36 months.

The Minister's inspection forms part of the Ministry's continued monitoring of strategic transport infrastructure projects intended to improve logistics efficiency, reduce congestion at our ports and roads and support economic activity.

Once completed and operational, the Asikuma project is expected to contribute to the development of a more integrated transport network, providing additional capacity for cargo movement and supporting Government's broader objective of transforming Ghana's transport sector into a more efficient and interconnected system.









NEW EMBRAER E190 TO BOOST GHANA'S AVIATION CONNECTIVITY — TRANSPORT MINISTER



The Minister for Transport, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe, has commended Africa World Airlines (AWA) for the acquisition of a new Embraer E190 aircraft, describing the addition to the airline's fleet as a significant boost to Ghana's aviation sector and efforts to strengthen domestic and regional connectivity.

The new aircraft has a total seating capacity of 102 passengers, comprising 14 Premium Economy seats and 88 Economy seats. The addition is expected to increase AWA's capacity to serve domestic and regional destinations while supporting Ghana's ambition of becoming a preferred aviation hub in the West African sub-region.

Speaking at the event, Hon. Joseph Bukari Nikpe said the development of the aviation sector required deliberate investment in infrastructure that would provide convenience and comfort for passengers while creating an environment in which airlines could operate and expand their services.

"In transportation, you have to create the convenience, comfort, and expand all the infrastructure that you have to enable every partaker in the aviation sector to operate freely and fairly", he stated.

The Minister highlighted the construction of a connecting concourse between Terminal 2 and 3 at the Accra International Airport as one of the key projects being undertaken to improve passenger movement. He explained that the facility would make it easier for passengers travelling on domestic and regional routes to connect with international flights if they have to at Terminal 3.

He also mentioned the development of a seven-storey car park, budget hotel and premium hotel facilities, which are expected to provide additional convenience for travellers using the airport and those requiring accommodation while connecting to later flights.

According to Hon. Bukari Nikpe, the government is also expanding aviation infrastructure beyond Accra to create greater opportunities for domestic air travel. He cited the construction of the Bolgatanga, Wa and Sunyani airports, as well as the expansion of the runway of Prempeh I International Airport in Kumasi to accommodate larger aircraft.

He said these investments were intended not merely to develop physical infrastructure but also to support the growth of domestic airlines and improve air connectivity between different parts of Ghana and the West African sub-region.

Hon. Nikpe called on domestic airlines, particularly AWA, to ensure that the benefits of increased capacity and government investment are reflected in the cost of air travel for Ghanaians.

He congratulated AWA for its resilience and continued growth, particularly its ability to withstand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which severely affected the global aviation industry. He expressed the expectation that the airline would continue expanding its fleet and services to serve domestic, regional and, eventually, international markets.

He assured AWA of the continued collaboration and support of the Ministry and its agencies, particularly the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority and Ghana Airports Company Limited, as the airline works to expand its fleet and services.

The Minister for Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts, Hon. Abla Dzifa Gomashie, on her part, also welcomed the Embraer E190, emphasising the strong relationship between aviation connectivity, tourism, cultural exchange and economic development.

She said easier and more efficient movement within the sub-region was critical to the growth of tourism. She further explained that every improvement in air connectivity created opportunities not only for passengers but also for businesses, tourism operators, cultural practitioners and communities that benefit from increased visitor numbers.

"*Connectivity is the lifeblood of tourism and cultural exchange. Every flight that takes off from Accra carries not only passengers, but also the stories, traditions and aspirations of our people,"* she said

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The Tourism Minister commended AWA for its commitment to innovation and described the Embraer E190 as an important investment that aligns with Ghana's aspiration to become a regional hub for air travel and tourism.

She noted that aviation played a broader role in promoting Ghana beyond transportation, providing an important platform through which the country's culture, hospitality and creative products could reach visitors and audiences across the region.



Hon. Gomashie also acknowledged the role of aviation workers in shaping visitors' first impressions of Ghana, describing them as important ambassadors who interact with travellers before they may have direct contact with tourism institutions.

She stressed that Ghana's renowned hospitality should remain an important part of the country's tourism offering, urging stakeholders to ensure that visitors experience the warmth, culture, music and identity of Ghana from the moment they arrive.

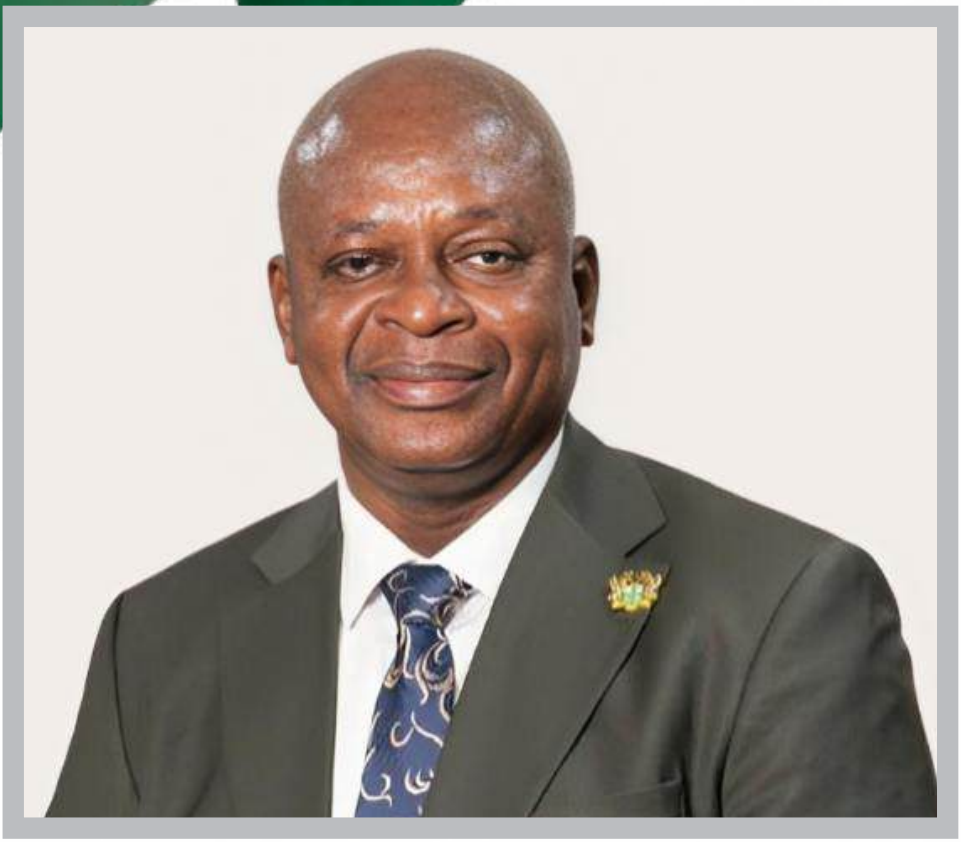


She urged government agencies, private-sector operators and international partners to maintain collaboration to ensure that Ghana's aviation sector remains safe, open and welcoming to travellers.

The event brought together stakeholders from aviation, tourism and diplomatic communities to celebrate AWA's latest addition to its fleet and its contribution to Ghana's connectivity and international visibility.







Honourable Joseph Bukari Nikpe
Minister



Honourable Dorcas Affo-Toffey
Deputy Minister



William Kartey
Chief Director



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