



L-R: Pilot Bello Alhassan; Pilot Yurkusi Maku Gajere; Assistant Harbour Master, TinCan, Capt Habib Simpa; Pilot Emmanuel Samaila, and Port Manager, TinCan Island Port Complex, Jibrin Buba, when the largest-ever container vessel to call at Lagos Pilotage District Berthed at TinCan Island Port Complex

Tincan Island Port receives largest container vessel since inception

Bayo Akomolafe

The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) has recorded yet another milestone with the berthing of the largest ever container vessel at the TinCan Island Port Complex.

The vessel, MSc Maureen Length Overall (LOA) of 300m and breadth of 40m carry a gross tonnage of 75,590 dead weight of 85,810 tonnes.

It is the biggest vessel that has ever called at the Lagos port since its inception.

Speaking on the development, the Port Manager, TinCan Island Port (TCIP), Buba Jubril, hailed the successful

berthing of the Panama vessel.

He described the vessel as the largest commercial ship ever to call at the Lagos pilotage district, which was a groundbreaking achievement at the TCIP, adding that there may be challenges that have not, however, stopped the port from doing its day to day operations excellently.

He said the port was expecting more of such vessels in the future.

Also speaking, the Assistant Harbour Master, TinCan, Captain Simpa Habib, clarified that the distinguishing historic feature of MSc Maureen was the fact that it

is largest ever commercial carrier to call at the Lagos pilotage district, noting that the EGINA that preceded it was a floating production and storage unit for oil and gas operations.

At the quays, the Deputy Comptroller of Enforcement, TCIP Customs Command, Apapa, Comptroller I. Aliu, explained that the Customs saw the new development as an affirmation of the standards available at the port, which is a manifestation of efficiency and indeed a big revenue earner for the country.

Similarly, the TCIP Harbour Master, Capt. Ibrahim Habib, said that with the ar-

rival of M.S.C Maureen, they have been able to maximise the potential of our channels that had only berthed a vessel with 275 metres length.

Pilot Emmanuel Samaila, who spoke on behalf of other pilots, said that it was a great achievement to bring a length of 300 meters to TCIP, adding that this marked double of the kind of vessels that usually call at the port.

Also, the Managing Director of M.S.C Nigeria Limited, Mr Andrew Lynch, said that it was a great day, adding that it would bring greater benefit to Lagos importers and exporters to have larger container vessels.

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