

Nigeria, Poland to Partner on Maritime and Shipyard Devt

The Minister of Transport, Senator Idris Umar, has expressed federal government's willingness to partner Poland in maritime development in order to boost the industry in Nigeria.

Umar made this known in Abuja, when the Polish Deputy Minister of Economy, Andrzej Dycha, accompanied with

some Polish entrepreneurs, visited him.

He said Nigeria had a lot of maritime opportunities for investors, especially in the ongoing development of Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency's (NIMASA) shipyard and dockyard facility in Okerenkoko, Warri South Local Government Area, Delta

State.

The ground breaking ceremony for the shipyard and dockyard, besides a maritime university were performed early this year by President Goodluck Jonathan.

The facilities are expected to build and maintain vessels when completed and operational next year. Ac-

cording to Umar, we are currently building shipyard and dockyard in Delta; so, we will like to partner Poland, giving the opportunities that it has expertise in.

"We are looking for technical partners and private investors in shipyard infrastructural development," he said.

He disclosed that discus-

sion on development of the maritime sector would commence between both countries soon, adding that the Federal Government had executed many rail line projects.

According to him, we have a total of 3,505 kilometers of narrow gauge system. We are equally developing the standard gauge system. We

have carried out a number of feasibility studies for new rail line corridors. Various investors have signified interest from across the world.

On why he visited minister, Dycha said that the position of Nigeria in Africa with regard to economy, and potential, prompted the visit of the delegation to Nigeria.

Thursday 3/10/14 - P. 42