

'With MAN Oron, Cadets training abroad sheer waste of resources' – NAMM

By Eguono Odjegba

THE National Association of Master Mariners, NAMM, has said the present state of the Maritime Academy of Nigeria, MAN, Oron with the capacity and structure to deliver world standard training for maritime middle-level manpower, has made it unnecessary to continue to sponsor cadets pre-sea training abroad.

It therefore urged the federal government to take a deliberate action to end the associated capital flight in seeking overseas training.

The group's President, Capt. Tajudeen Alao, who made the call while delivering a goodwill message during the 2022 graduation ceremony of Cadets of the academy in Oron, Akwa-Ibom state, said the academy has transformed into a first-class, leading maritime training institution in the sub-region and Africa as a whole, and should be properly marketed and patronized by government,

arguing that the right recognition by the Nigerian government would serve as a catalyst for attracting other prospective trainees within the continent.

Ajao explained that the rejuvenated academy, both faculty and infrastructural development and up-to-date facilities, is at par with any other in Europe or Asia and can now compete favourably with others any other at the international level.

His words, "The Academy is well positioned to carry out her mandate of training cadets for seafaring career. Therefore, it is no more necessary to send Nigerians abroad for Pre-sea cadets training.

"We don't know how to thank the Rector, Commodore Duja Effedua, Rtd, enough for turning this place completely around less than four years; I am optimistic that with what we have here now, foreign training or sponsorship of cadets for oversea training will just be a waste of resources for pre-sea training requirements."