

Six passengers confirmed dead in Lagos boat mishap

Tola Adenubi December 31, 2025



An illustrative photo of a capsized boat

The National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) and the Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA) on Wednesday confirmed that six passengers lost their lives in a fatal boat mishap that occurred along the Nigerdock axis of the Igbologun water channel of the Lagos waterways on Tuesday.

In a statement jointly signed by LASWA's Head, Public Affairs Unit, Wuraola Alake and Head, Lagos Corporate Affairs unit of NIWA, Omowunmi Yussuff, four passengers were successfully rescued and transported to a nearby hospital, where they are currently receiving medical attention.

According to the NIWA/LASWA statement, "The Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA) and National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) have confirmed a boat mishap involving a Savvy Marine passenger boat on Tuesday, December 30, 2025, at approximately 8:35 p.m, along the Nigerdock axis of the Igbologun water channel."

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According to the Waterways Authorities, the boat was en route from Ilashe Beach House at the time of the incident.

"Upon receiving a distress alert, they immediately activated their Search and Rescue (SAR) teams, which responded promptly and worked in close collaboration with the Marine Police and other first responders.

"As of the time of this report, four passengers have been successfully rescued and transported to a nearby hospital, where they are currently receiving medical attention. Sadly, six other passengers were recovered dead at the scene. Search and rescue operations remain ongoing to account for all persons involved.

"Preliminary findings indicate that the incident may have been caused by a collision with a submerged object; however, further investigations are still ongoing to fully ascertain the cause of the mishap. LASWA and NIWA wishes to assure the public that a thorough investigation will be conducted, and further updates will be communicated as more information becomes available.

"LASWA and NIWA extends its deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of the victims and assures the public of its continued commitment to ensuring safety on Lagos Inland Waterways. The Authorities also reiterate the importance of adherence to all safety regulations, including proper navigation practices and compliance with NO NIGHT TRAVEL rule.

"Members of the public are advised to remain calm and rely only on verified information from LASWA\NIWA and other official sources."