

ECOWAS to strengthen emergency response team

By Aisha Umar Agaie

Madalla accident: Another victim dies

By Usman A. Bello & Hussein Yahaya

ONE of the victims of Sunday's tanker accident at Madalla market along Kaduna-Zuba road, in which 14 persons got burnt to death, died yesterday before getting to the Gwagwalada General Hospital where he was referred to.

Dr. Ugwoegbu Valentine, medical director of Lukas Hospital in Madalla, where about 22 persons were taken to, told *Daily Trust* that the victim sustained serious burns from the incident which was beyond the competence of the hospital.

Valentine however said others were responding to treatment.

Meanwhile, the victims of the accident have called on the Federal Government to help foot their medical bills and provide them with other assistance.

One of the victims, Kumfi Johny Armut, appealed to the government, corporate bodies and well-meaning Nigerians to assist them.

The Head of Hospital Services at the Suleja General Hospital was said to be on an official assignment when our reporters called, but a nurse at the accident section of the hospital confirmed that three victims were referred to the hospital but have since been taken to another hospital by their families.

Meantime, two persons were said to have

been burnt to death when another fire broke out from the carcass of the ill-fated tanker while six others sustained serious burns and three vehicles completely razed down.

The Divisional Police Officer of the Madalla Zone C police station, Chimezie C. Alloys confirmed the death and added that six persons also sustained serious burns while three vehicles were razed down.

Madalla branch Chairman of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) Mallam Mamuda Abubakar attributed the accident to mechanical fault and called for sanction on operators of faulty tankers on the highways.