

The second incident involved a commercial boat which took off from Mile 2 and was heading to Ibeshe with 16 people onboard when it capsized around 7.45pm on Friday night.

Already, two dead bodies from the ill-fated boat, a 56-year-old man and a young woman of about 20 years have since been recovered by policemen attached to the marine police, while search is still ongoing for the other missing passengers.

The latest incident was not known until Saturday morning, thus, narrowing the chances of any survival.

The operators of the boat were said to have violated the safety rules by operating beyond the approved time for commercial boat operation in Lagos.

A statement by the Lagos area manager of the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA), Sarat Braimah, an engineer, revealed that 16 passengers were onboard the ill-fated boat as at the time of the incident and that all of them were yet to be accounted for.

It is said that all the passengers on board, including children, were not putting on life jackets.

“The search and rescue team of the Lagos State Waterways Authority (LASWA) and the NIWA were immediately mobilised to the scene of the incident, but unfortunately, they could only find the boat after several hours. Efforts are still ongoing to locate the victims.

“The boat is currently in the custody of the marine police. The boat captain is also unaccounted for as at the time of this press release,” she stated.