

Seven Killed In Zamfara FC Crash, Lulu Commiserates

Seven people died and several others were injured after a head-on crash involving the team bus of Globacom Premier League side Zamfara United.

Team official Ado Umar died at the scene of Friday's accident and a player, Abdullahi Sabiu, died in hospital early on Saturday.

The crash also claimed the lives of five passengers in the other car.

Several players and officials are being treated at the Federal Medical Centre in the northern city of Gombe.

Nigerian Premier League (NPL) official Tunji Babalola said the team was on its way to a league game

against Wikki Tourist in Gombe.

The tragic accident comes just one month after lower league club Jimeta United lost 17 players and officials when their bus crashed in the north central town of Jos on their way to a league match in Abuja.

Meanwhile, Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) President, Alhaji Sani Lulu Abdullahi, has commiserated with the management of Premier League Clubs, Zamfara United and Ocean Boys who lost players and supporters in various accidents and incidents at the weekend.

It was gathered that one player

and the curator, Ado Umar died when the bus in which Zamfara FC players were traveling collided with another vehicle 30 kilometers to Gombe on Friday evening.

On Saturday, supporters of Ocean Boys who were traveling to Ughelli for a Premier League match with arch rivals Bayelsa United were ambushed few kilometers to Ughelli by persons suspected to be members of a rival gang, who opened fire and killed all those in the vehicle. It is not yet clear how many persons were killed and reports have indicated that players might have been in the traveling party.

"This is all very sad. Players, technical crew Members and Supporters are all personalities in the

entire flow of football. We are shocked at these incidents and accidents that have robbed us of a number of them in less than 24 hours.

"It is time for us all as Nigerians to pray harder for our football teams. Just in December, there was an accident in which women players died, and in January, players of an amateur team were killed in another accident. May Almighty Allah put a stop to incidents like these", said the NFF boss.

Zamfara FC players and officials were on their way to a Premier League game against Wikki Tourists of Bauchi in Gombe (the latter's ground in Bauchi is being renovated for the FIFA U-17 World Cup). Ocean Boys and Bayelsa United, both from Bayelsa State, are representing Nigeria in this year's CAF Confederation Cup.