

# 8 Lagos seeks solution to incessant tanker accidents

## One dies, 2 injured in accident on Otedola Bridge

LAGOS State is set to stop the incessant truck accidents that have claimed several innocent lives in the state, just as one person was killed and two injured in an accident on Otedola Bridge.

The state governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has, however, said "enough is enough" as the state government convened a stakeholders' engagement with key representatives of the downstream energy sector to deepen safety awareness of operators, given the spate of fire incidents involving petroleum tankers in recent times.

Speaking at a virtual meeting, the Commissioner for Energy and Mineral Resources, Mr Olalere Odusote, said "Mr Governor is keen to see the downstream sector

continue to flourish in the state but operators must stay within the framework of safety provided by the regulators and the laws of the state."

Odusote said the workshop was put together to address the recurrence of such hazardous incidents, and to seek effective and lasting solutions that align with the interests of all stakeholders.

The forum deliberated on the hazardous incidents involving petroleum tankers in the state and explored solutions to the overloading of petroleum tankers, enforcement of the road worthiness of trucks conveying petroleum products and find ways to halt the indiscriminate parking of petroleum tankers along roads in the state.

Disclosing that Lagos State has commenced the process of creating fully-equipped truck transit parks and terminals to eliminate the indiscriminate parking of trucks in the State, Odusote said that a technology-based Integrated Terminal Management System where tickets are issued prior to proceeding to the loading bays will be introduced, in addition to the enforcement of the annual certifications for tanker drivers and trucks that ply Lagos roads.

Meanwhile, a tanker loaded with petrol on Thursday rammed into a bus and a car on the Otedola Bridge in Lagos, resulting in the loss of a life.

The director-general, Lagos State Emergency Manage-

ment Agency (LASEMA), Dr Olufemi Oke-Osanyintolu, told the *News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)* in Lagos that two people were severely injured in the accident which occurred at about 8:30 a.m.

Oke-Osanyintolu said that the agency's officials have removed the vehicles from the road to ease traffic.

According to him, a female adult lost her life to the accident, while a male adult and a child got injured.

He said that the body of the female adult had been taken to a mortuary, while the injured were being treated.

He said that the affected vehicles are a Volkswagen car marked AAA 722 FU, a Mazda bus marked KJA 581 XL and a tanker which has no number.