17 perish in Warri-Benin road accident

By Simon Ebegbulem

BENINCITY—SEVEN-TEEN persons perished yesterday in a motor accident along the Warri-Benin expressway when the bus in which they were travelling ran into a stationary trailer. There were only two survivors.

Vanguard gathered that the deceased persons were returning from a burial in Delta State to their base in Benin. The names of the survivors were given as Idahosa Etinosa and Yakubu Egbunor.

Although the Edo State

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deal decisively with operators caught in such practices. He said the commission had set up a machinery to monitor the market and that those found

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dinator of the Save Accident Victims Association of Nigeria (SAVAN); Dr Tony Ehikhamenor, whose men evacuated the victims said 17 people died.

Obayemi attributed the incident to the carelessness of the bus driver whom he said was on a high speed. "That is the only situation that would have made the accident so severe. It is very sad that such number of persons lost their lives but these things should have been controlled some times if the drivers were not always on high speed. It is very unfortunate, I must tell you," he said

Dr Ehikhamenor said "the

accident was so severe that it was difficult to identify the victims. Four of the victims had their heads cut off. In fact, when we learnt of the incident, we thought it was just a minor accident and a few of our people were sent there for the rescue mission. But when we learnt that it was that bad we had to send more of our men down to assist them, at least to rush any survivor to the hospital.

"It will be difficult to identify most of them now, because some of them, about four, had their heads cut off. We have deposited the deceased at the Central Hospital while the two survivors are currently at the emergency section of the hos-

pital," he said.