

# Dockworker dies in an accident

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A MIDDLE AGED-dock worker, Mr Peter Iyoriobhe, was Saturday killed at Apapa Ports Lagos, when he fell in-between two containers while working in a vessel identified as MSC Alexandra, even as another yet-to-be-identified dockworker yesterday lay unconscious from a similar accident.

The incident took place at Berth 7 and Ache 3, run by Sifas, the terminal operators government concessioned the ports to as part of its reform programme.

Confirming the incident, President of Dockworkers branch of Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria (MWUN), Comrade Anthony Emmanuel Nted, lamented that the accident happened because of inexperience and unsafe working conditions the terminal operators had exposed workers to.

According to him, the accident had once again vindicated our position that the terminal operators have refused to provide conducive working environment to their areas in line with even the minimal best practice.

He said: "This latest incident is about four within the little time when the terminal

operators took over operational areas of the ports. The late man, Mr. Peter Iyoriobhe who was engaged less than two months and deployed without experience and training was working with other persons on MSC Alexandra vessel at Berth 7 and Ashe 3, in Apapa ports, run by Sifas. Mr. Iyoriobhe was on top of the container working. The container wire got hooked and this made the container to shift as if it was going to fall.

Because of his inexperience, he attempted to jump to the other container where he fell in-between two containers. He was still unconscious when he was res-

cued, but because it took almost an hour before an ambulance could arrive to take him to hospital, he died before they got to Apapa base. The corpse has since being deposited at the Ikeja General Hospital."

"We have been informed that another incident took place this morning at berth 4, where a similar incident left another worker in a critical and unconscious state as I am talking to you now. These accidents are completely avoidable, but because the terminal operators have refused to provide safety wears, decent working conditions, engage ex-

perienced dockworkers amongst others. That is why we are tackling them.

When contacted, the corporate affairs manager of Sifax Shipping, Dr. Phil Ofulue, said it is unfortunate that the dockworker died because he was scared. Ofulue explained that they are working out modalities for the entitlements for the late worker.

Although he denied allegation that Sifax and other concessionaires are not providing adequate safety gears for their dockworkers, he however noted that there would be an official statement from the company on the issue today.

## 18,000 strip for photo shoot

MEXICO CITY— A record 18,000 people took off their clothes to pose for U.S. photographic artist Spencer Tunick Sunday in Mexico City's Zocalo square, the heart of the ancient Aztec empire.

Tunick, who has raised eyebrows by staging mass nude photo shoots in cities from Dusseldorf, Germany, to Caracas, smashed his previous record of 7,000 volunteers set in 2003 in Barcelona, Spain.

Directing with a megaphone, Tunick shot a series of pictures with his Mexican models simultaneously raising their arms, then lying on their backs in the square as well as another scene on a side street with volunteers arranged in the shape of an arrow.

Hundreds of police kept nosy onlookers away during the nippy early-morning shoot, and a no-fly zone was declared above the plaza.

One of the world's biggest

and most imposing squares, the Zocalo is framed by a cathedral, city hall and the National Palace official seat of government, which is adorned with murals by Diego Rivera.

A ruined temple next to it was once the centre of the Aztec civilization and was used for worship and human sacrifice. Spanish conquistadors used bricks from the temple to help build their own capital.

Some participants said the