

3 die, UNICEF supplements gutted in Niger truck accident

By Ezra Ukanwa

MINNA—Three persons have been confirmed dead, and a Bauchi State-bound truckload of therapeutic supplements of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, UNICEF, gutted, after two trucks collided in Niger State.

Describing the accident as unfortunate, an eyewitness, who spoke to our correspondent but requested anonymity, said the accident happened on March 29, 2023, adding that about two other persons sustained injuries.

According to the witness, the trailer, with number plate BBR709XB was loaded from the Lekki zone area with a UNICEF ready to use therapeutic drugs to be delivered in Bauchi State.

The drug was loaded on March 28, heading to Bauchi, but on reaching Lambatta in Niger State, the truck driver, a Muslim, parked to break his fast.

"So, in this process, another truck, a lowbed conveying a payloader head going to Abuja, hit a tanker loaded with PMS that was directly parked in front of the trailer conveying the UNICEF therapeutic drugs and the trailer exploded and destroyed many other trucks and the truck was completely burnt."

Efforts to get reactions from the Public Relations Officer of the police in Niger State, Wasiu Abiodun, proved abortive as his lines did not go through when contacted by our correspondent.