## 3 die in Bonny boat mishap

## By Daniel Abia

PORT HARCOURT—Three persons, including a toddler lost their lives in a boat mishap on the Bonny waters on Sunday as the council chairman condoled with the families of the deceased.

Chairman of Bonny Local Government Area of the state, Anengi Claude-Wilcox, in a statement, yesterday, said she was deeply saddened by the incident.

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She said: 'The Bonny council is deeply saddened by the tragic boat mishap that occurred on the Bonny-Port Harcourt sea-route on January 19, 2025, claiming the lives of two adults and a toddler.

"Preliminary findings revealed that the mishap was caused by a sudden

rise of oceanic storm which troubled the boat, leading to the unfortunate mishap that claimed three lives, with 19 survivors, who were all immediately taken for medical attention at the expense of the Bonny council.

"We extend our sincerest condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims. May God grant you all the strength and fortitude to bear this irreparable lose," she said.

Claude-Wilcox said the council shares in the grief and pain, and "we pray that the souls of the departed rest in perfect peace."

The Bonny Council asked the public to assist with useful information on a passenger boat that

met the scene but refused to render assistance to the ill-fated boat or its stranded passengers, advising travelers to be wary of traveling under inclement weather.

"Sadly, information reaching the council revealed that there was a passenger boat that met the scene of the incident but refused to stop to rescuethevictims of the mishap while they were struggling to survive on the sea. Anybody with useful information about the particular boat driver should contact the council secretary.

"Bonny council advises travellers to be cautious of the weather and adhere strictly to the safety rules and measures of passenger ferries, so as to avert future recurrence.