

MEMO



NIGERIAN SHIPPERS' COUNCIL

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From: AD(ICT)

Throu' DD(SA/ES-CEO) *V. S. E.*

23/3/23

To: DCA

Dept: _____

Date: 23/03/2023

**UPDATE OF COUNCIL'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE-BORDER
INFORMATION CENTRE AND SEA LINK**

In view of the low rating of the Council by PEBEC, we humbly request that you provide information on the current status of the Border Information Centre (BIC) and Sea Link (SL) to enable the Council's webmaster urgently update the Council's website.

The existing information on BIC and SL on the website is attached for your perusal.

A softcopy of your submission should be sent to the email address webcontent@shipperscouncil.gov.ng to boost the speedy uploading of the information.

We also, humbly request that subsequent updates on the Border Information Centre and Sea Link that have been approved by you be forwarded by the Website Desk Officer in your Department/Unit to the Assistant Director, ICT or webcontent@shipperscouncil.gov.ng.

B. O. Ivwighrehweta

cc: ES/CEO

Border Information Centre (BIC)

The BIC is a project carried out in conjunction with USAID and West Africa Trade Hub (WATH) to give information to cross-border traders of what they need to know to effectively carry out seamless trade. The project is also a means of formalising the traditional informal cross-border trade and blocking of associated revenue leakages. The BIC has been established and commissioned at the Seme border post.

Efforts are on-going for establishment of more BICs in the following border posts:

- Sokoto - BirninKoni;
- Jibiya - Maradi;
- Banki - Kirawa;
- Shaki - Parakou

Sea Link

SEA LINK

The Council is collaborating with Nigerian Export - Import Bank (NEXIM), to develop a sea link between members of the Joint Development Zone (JDZ) which are Nigeria, Equatorial Guinea, and Sao Tome and Principe.

The Sea link Project will establish a maritime shipping line which will provide cabotage, passenger services and goods haulage among the countries of the JDZ

The project which resulted from a successful comprehensive Technical and Economic feasibility study is aimed at reducing the cost of moving cargo among the countries of the JDZ and increasing maritime and trade activities among them.

The project, when completed will:

- Reduce the cost of moving cargo among the countries of the JDZ and increase maritime and trade activities among the countries by ensuring payment of duty only on goods delivered to the ports of final destination.
- Improve frequency of maritime services between Nigeria and Sao Tome & Principe which will ultimately improve commerce in and around the entire Gulf of Guinea.
- Improve private sector initiative through the provision of efficient sea transport services by giving them competitive edge to exporters and importers
- Reduce transportation costs;
- Eliminate the need for cargo trans-shipment in Europe for Intra-African trade.
- Increase trade volume and improve efficiency in transportation in the Sub-region; and
- Boost economic growth and development for Nigeria