

MPS readies for AfCFTA, builds capacity for Tema Industrial City

By end of December 2020, Meridian Port Services Ltd (MPS) extended the original FIDIC Yellow Book Contract with EIFFAGE Génie Civil to include the Land Works for the 4th New Berth of the MPS Terminal 3 (part of Phase 2 of the Tema Port Expansion Project).

Five months later; the MPS management team joined by executives from the Port Authority and the Shipping community and all the Contractors on the job gathered to lay the first pavement blocks at berth 4.

In addressing the guests, the CEO of MPS, Mr. Mohamed Samara, expressed his appreciation to the guests who made it to this remarkable event to celebrate the achievement of another milestone of investment journey by MPS in the implementation of the MPS Tema Port Expansion Project. Appreciations were also expressed to those who could not have been present but did not due to the difficult times of COVID-19.

“The land works covers 42,000 square meters right at



the terminal’s waterfront (400m along the quay wall by 105m deep into the yard). Today we will be laying the first row of the total 2.1 million pavement blocks” Mr. Samara said.

He further indicated that the 4th New Berth civil works will be completed by September 2021, and this stretches the MPS Terminal 3 quayside to 1,400m at dredged level of -16.90 m CD.

The Contracts Manager of Eiffage Génie Civil, Mr. Mohammed Juma, emphasised on his company’s commitment to deliver on their obligation to complete the works on time or even ahead of schedule.

“Eiffage Génie Civil and the entire team at the Tema Port Expansion Project have already worked for 27-million-man hours with no fatalities or serious injury” said Mr. Juma while urging the team to continue with this remarkable safety achievement.

The Director of Tema Port, Mrs. Sandra Opoku, congratulated MPS for actions taken to commence and achieve the milestone. She disclosed that the operation of a fourth berth will open countless opportunities to MPS, the Port of Tema and variable to Ghana.

“MPS is encouraged to continue

in its quest to increase capacity and infrastructure to the benefit of Ghana as it has already done by venturing into transshipment which has contributed to an increase in shipping trade” was noted by Mrs Opoku.

The Chairman of GPHA, Mr. Peter Mac Manu expressed his excitement for chairing such a ceremonial milestone and congratulated MPS Management and all the contractors involved in the project by proclaiming that “with the direction taken by MPS in the port and maritime industry, the sky is the limit as they reclaimed the land from the Atlantic Ocean to build on it such infrastructure with heavy civil engineering” said Mr. Mac Manu.

Mr. Peter Mac Manu, also touched on importance of this investment to exporters, importers, the AfCFTA and the huge potential industrial growth of Ghana’s feeding into international trade and maritime sector.

Transshipment remains a key goal for ports in the region as West Africa still lacks a well-developed transshipment hub. MPS Terminal 3 of Tema Port has on this premise raised the bar to cater for this need.



New US\$50 billion health, trade and finance roadmap to end the pandemic

Heads of International Monetary Fund, World Bank Group, World Health Organization, World Trade Organization has issued an extraordinary call for financing actions by government leaders to accelerate end to COVID-19 pandemic.

IMF, WB, WHO, WTO principals are calling for US\$50 billion investment to generate US\$9 trillion in global economic returns by 2025 and boost manufacturing capacity, supply, trade flows and the equitable distribution of diagnostics, oxygen, treatments, medical supplies and vaccines.

Call to action by this quadrilateral grouping comes at a perilous point in the pandemic



and as the historic World Health Assembly concludes, G7 meetings commence, and follows the G20 Global Health Summit.

Doses need to be donated immediately to developing countries, synchronized with

national vaccine deployment plans, including through COVAX, which is co-led by CEPI, Gavi and WHO, alongside key delivery partner UNICEF.

The leaders of the four agencies said governments must

act without further delay or risk continued waves and explosive outbreaks of COVID-19 as well as more transmissible and deadly virus variants undermining the global recovery.

They said: “By now it has become abundantly clear there will be no broad-based recovery without an end to the health crisis. Access to vaccination is key to both.”

“At an estimated \$50 billion, it will bring the pandemic to an end faster in the developing world, reduce infections and loss of lives, accelerate the economic recovery, and generate some \$9 trillion in additional global output by 2025,” said the leadership.