REAL SECTOR WATCH

94% of CEOs say ports are biggest impediment to industries

...95% want harmonisation of taxes

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inety-four percent of chief executives of manufacturing companies across the country say congestion at the ports significantly affects productivity negatively. a 2019 second quarter CEOs Confidence Index shows. In the survey, which was conducted by the Manufac-

turers Association of Nigeria (MAN), the CEOs complained that delays in clearing raw materials and machinery often re sult in high demurrages which increase production costs and slow down manufacturing operations.

The report taps inadequate space inside the ports, weak trade facilitation infrastructure, poor road network and the associated traffic gridlock as critical issues that require government attention.

A 2018 report by the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) had supported the CEOs point. The report by the LCCI had disclosed that 5,000 trucks seek access to Apapa and Tin Can ports in Lagos every day even though they were originally meant to accommodate only 1,500 trucks.

The data utilised in the MAN's second quarter report was generated from the responses of over 400 CEOs of member-companies of MAN across the country as against 200 respondents engaged in the first quarter 2019.

Analyses of data collected focused principally on the positions of CEOs on macroeconomic and business operating environments as well as perception on the diffusion

In the first quarter survey, 92 percent of CEOs said multiple taxation was their biggest impediment. But in the second quarter, the number rose to 95

"This is substantiated by the numerous taxes, levies, fees and other charges that manufacturers pay to agencies of the federal, state and local governments," the report says.

"Consequently, there is the need to streamline multiplicity of taxes and ensure that only approved taxes/levies/fees are

charged," it says.

Moreover, 76 percent of CEOs disagreed that the rate at which commercial banks lend to manufacturers encourage productivity in the sector.

"This is evident in the double-digit cost of borrowing from the commercial banks. which obviously discourages investment," the report further

It calls for lower cost of borrowing to increase productivity in the manufacturing sector.

Access to credit remains a major problem, with lending rate to the manufacturing sector averaging 22.21 percent in 2018 and 22.84 percent in 2017, cording to MAN.
Nigeria's benchmark inter-

est rate is among the highest in Africa at 13.5 percent. Ethiopia's is 7 percent; Kenya is 9 percent; South Africa is 6.75 percent; Zambia is 10.25 percent, and Cameroon is 4.25 percent.

Similarly, Rwanda is 5 percent; Mauritius, 3.5 percent; Algeria is 8 percent, and Senegal is 4.5 percent.

Sixty-six percent of CEOs of manufacturing companies in the new survey disagreed that the volume of commercial hanks loans to the sector encourages productivity in

"This obviously indicates that the current Central Bank policy aimed at increasing loan to the real sector of the economy to stimulate production is a step in the right direction and should therefore be cientiously implem and improved upon," the re-

Furthermore, half of the respondents disagreed that gov-ernment capital expenditure implementation encourages productivity in the sector.

The CEOs' perception rested principally on the delay in budget approvals, low implementation of budgetary provisions, award of contracts to foreign firms and dearth of basic infrastructure such as

inefficient port infrastructure, inadequate electricity supply, deplorable road networks, and low patronage.

"This therefore confirms

the need to review the infrastructure development plan to deliberately stimulate sustained productivity in the real sector," it adds.

The report shows that foreign exchange access is still a critical challenge for many manufacturers, as 46 percent disagreed that the rate at which the sector sources foreign exchange (forex) has improved. While 36 percent agreed

that there was more dollar access, 18 percent were not sure that forex has improved.

Out of those interviewed, only 21 percent agreed that patronage of Nigerian manufac tured products has improved as a result of the implementation of Executive Order 003.



STATEMENT TO THE NIGERIAN STOCK EXCHANGE AND SHAREHOLDERS ON THE UNAUDITED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER AND PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE, 2019

STATEMENT FOR FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT	30 June 2019	31 December 2018
	N'000	Nºoqo
Non - Current assets:		
Properly, Plant and Equipment	17,808,623	17,518,004
Intangible Assets	9,130	10,795
Total Non - surrent assets	17,817,753	17,528,799
Current assots:	a wildy	
Inventories	5,779,117	6,239,740
Trade and other receivables	13,806,494	13,438,292
Cash and cash equivalents	9,379,713	8,872,793
Total Current assets	28,984,324	28,550,830
Total assets		
JULII ABBATA	46,782,077	48,079,020
Liabilities:		Partie of the said
Non - current Habilities:		Salahan Ara
Emptoyee Benafit Obligation		
Deferred taxation.	2,728,744	2.728,744
Total, non-current (labilities	2,728,744	2,728,744
Current liabilities:	violation is	· (*)46 * (*)56
Short term borrowings	548,932	1,098,584
Trade and other payables	9,763,354	11,598,037
Current income tax liabilities	1,720,810	964,137
Dividend payable	62,554	62,854
Total current lighlities	12,865,450	13,723,312
Total liabilities	14,824,100	18,482,456
Equity:		
Issued share capital	249,986	249,868
Share premium	312,847	812,847
Other reserves	2,429,942	2,429,942
Retained earnings	28,085,109	26,634,780
Yetaf equity.	31,367,969	29,627,873
Yotal equity and tisbilities	46,763,077	98,079,600

	3 months 6 months April June 2019 7 30 June 2019		3 months 6 month April-June 2018 - 10 June 201	
	N'000	N'000	N'000	N'00
Revenue	7,317,190	14,469,805	6,528,988	13,137,96
Cost of sales	(6,970,629)	(11,518,093)	(5,176,066)	(10,034,22
Gross Profit	1,346,561	2,051,718	1,522,022	3,103,74
Other income	327,844	440,670	324,135	483,48
Selling and distribution expenses	(21,347)	(42,087)	(22,255)	[49,79
Administrative expenses	(254,202)	(499,547)	(364,682)	(720,80
Operating Profit	1,338,656	2,850,770	1,460,120	2,815,63
Foreign exchange (loss)/gain	(34,879)	96,977	111,150	145,12
Net Finance (cost) / income	237,312	479,178	273,455	560.14
Profit before taxation	1,601,089	3,425,925	1,844,725	3,521,90
Income tax expense	(512,349)	(1,086,816)	[590,312)	(1,127,00
Profit for the year	1,088,740	2,330,310	1,254,413	2,394,89
Other comprehensive income:	A CH			100000
Remeasurement loss on employee benefit obligation			发生的心态	4
Other comprehensive income (net of tax)	19 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10			1000
Total comprehensive income	1,088,740	2,330,310	1,254,413	2,204,00
Basic and dilluted EPS (Naira)	2.18	4.65	2.51	4.79

4.4	30 June 2019 30June 2018		
Cash flows from operating activities: Cash generated from operations Tax paid	2;148,958 (339,944)	7,668,162 (1,019,998)	
Employee benefits paid	(22,060)	(9,816)	
Net cash generated from operating activities	1,004,002	6,638,348	
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(1,538,684)	(1,176,798)	
Purchase of intangible assets Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	2700	(7,636) 9,426	
Interest received	(23,631, °	956,010	
Net cash used in investing activities	pm.ssn	(013,300)	
Cash flows from financing activities: Repayment of term borrowings Proceeds from term borrowings Interest paid Dividend paid	(1,058,000) 548,002 (144,857)	(512,467) (55,467)	
Statute barred dividend returned Non-statute barred dividend returned Not cash used in financing activities	(000.1009)	(007,004)	
Net increase in cash, cash equivalents and back eventral Effect of exchange rate changes an cash and cash equivalent		8,817,118 384,825	
Cash, cash equivalents at 1 January	8,872,768	0.100,007	
Cash, cash equivalents at 1) June		100	