

Faustina Nomo & Juliet Adam

SELLING FISH

TEMA FISH MARKET



*Image above:
Mrs Faustina Nomo &
Mrs. Juliet Adam.*

We meet Faustina and Juliet at the open-air fish market in the Tema fishing harbour. They sell red snapper from a large unplugged freezer that is filled with ice blocks and shavings, as there is no electricity available. After we've exchanged a few sentences, they call in their *sister* Janet from her stall at the opposite side of the street, to support with English translating.

What is your job?

We are traders. Janet sells tomatoes and we sell fish from the sea, that we buy directly from the fishermen here in the fishing harbour. We buy from different fishermen, whatever they will bring in. Do you want to buy one of my fish? Look, they are big and beautiful.

Will the expansion of the port of Tema, or many big ships coming in, change your situation?

No, I don't think it will. The expansion will not cause any harm to us. About the effects of the big ships you cannot ask us, you will have to ask the big bosses. But the fish depends on the sea, not on big port expansion. The fish will stay here, in the same place, the same situation. No problem. Sometimes you get a lot, sometimes you don't. If more people come to the fishing harbour, we will sell more fish. And the people that buy fish will also buy tomatoes, so we all will sell more.

What could be done to make selling your fish better?

It would be much better for us if we could have better cooling for our fish; we would like brand new fridges. Now we only use our fridges as cooler-boxes. And we have to buy ice, much ice because it melts very fast. It

would be much better if we could have these good (polystyrene) boxes.

What do you think the fishing harbour will look like in 20 years time?

I do not know, how can I know this?

How do you hope this market will look like in 20 years time?

I hope this place will be neat, not dirty and dusty. And with clean and level floors, no sand, mud and potholes. And there shall be more roofed market buildings that give us shade, so we can have good business and earn plenty of money.